GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP for EDUCATION

Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 22-23, 2015
Seoul, Republic of Korea

FINAL DECISIONS

BOD/2015/05-04–December 15-16, 2014 Board Meeting Report: The Board of Directors approves the Report of the Meeting of the Board of Directors in Washington, D.C. on December 15-16, 2014 (BOD/2015/05 DOC 03).

BOD/2015/05-05—Approval of Maximum Country Allocations: The Board of Directors:

1. notes the negative impact on the forecast of available assets of a strengthened US Dollar and recognizes that the available options to manage the Global Partnership's exposure to adverse foreign exchange movements have been explored and are currently limited;
2. decides that in order to reduce the impact of exchange rate movements on the predictability of grant allocations:
    a. that the minimum allocations expressed in US Dollars per the allocation formula of the funding model shall also be calculated in local currency equivalent as of the date of the replenishment (June 26, 2014);
    b. in the event that at the time of the Governance, Ethics, Risk and Finance Committee's ("GERF") report to the Board of Directors recommending the announcement of a Maximum Country Allocation to an eligible country the US Dollar exchange rate is different than the rate in effect at the time of the replenishment, the US Dollar allocation recommended shall be adjusted to maintain the same local currency equivalent as calculated at the time of the replenishment;
    c. the GERF may recommend an exception to the methodology outlined in b. above based on country context and the rationale for any exception shall be disclosed in the GERF's report;
    d. on an exceptional basis, restates the Maximum Country Allocations in Annex 4 of BOD/2015/05 DOC 06 previously announced by the Board of Directors in December 2014 in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs a and b, and with the exception that the date for recalculating the US Dollar exchange rate for comparison with the rate in effect at the time of the replenishment shall be the date of Board approval;
3. requests all partners to continue to work to reduce the projected shortfall in available resources and the impact of foreign exchange volatility including through continued exploration of the following measures:
    a. the World Bank in its capacity as Trustee and Host of the GPE Secretariat to work with the Secretariat and Donors to facilitate the development of a hedging strategy to mitigate the risk of foreign exchange fluctuations and report back to the GERF at its next meeting on progress;
    b. the Secretariat in consultation with the Trustee, Supervising and Managing Entitites ("SE/MEs"), and relevant Donor Partners to develop a proposal for consideration at the next meeting of the GERF outlining the implications of facilitating Euro denominated grants in addition to existing US Dollar denominated grants as a potential solution to limit the current significant mismatch between the high value of non-US Dollar based contributions compared to the value of US Dollar based liabilities;

c. the Secretariat to engage with SE/MEs to consider the scope for efficiency gains to be found in both the existing portfolio and when considering new requests for funding;

4. approves the list of Maximum Country Allocations for Round 2 of 2016 as set out in Annex 3 to BOD/2015/05/DOC 06. The allocation for these countries will remain valid through the final application round of 2018 unless otherwise adjusted by the Board, and will be subject to the requirements of the funding model for the 2015–2018 period; and

5. requests the GERF to conduct a review of the forecast of available resources at its next face-to-face meeting in 2015 and to make recommendations for decision by the Board on the level of available resources for approval of the Maximum Country Allocations for Round 1 and Round 2 of 2017 and potential positive adjustments to the Maximum Country Allocations for eligible countries impacted by the prioritization measures, and the resources available for the general provision.

BOD/2015/05-06—Streamlined Grants Decision-Making Process: The Board of Directors:

1. delegates authority to the Country Grants and Performance Committee ("CGPC") to approve material changes to grants, as defined in the Policy on Education Sector Program Implementation Grants;

2. delegates authority to the CGPC to approve accelerated funding for emergency and early recovery activities (in accordance with the Guidelines for Accelerated Support in Emergency and Early Recovery Situations);

3. requests the CGPC to report to the Board on all delegated decisions made by the CGPC at each Board meeting; and

4. requests the GERF, in consultation with the CGPC, to review the implementation of this delegation of authority and to report to the Board at its next governance review.

BOD/2015/05-07—Trustee Budget: The Board of Directors approves of the estimated administrative expenses of US$480,000 for trustee services for the period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

BOD/2015/05-08—Proposed Revision to Zambia Education Sector Program Implementation Grant: The Board of Directors approves a no-cost extension of the end date of the Zambia Grant from November 2016 to March 2018 as requested in the Program Revision Notification.

BOD/2015/05-09–in reference to BOD/2013/02-02 and BOD/2013/07-01 – Approval of Funding of GRA Concept Notes: The Board of Directors agrees to apply the provisions of the Policy on Timeframes and Revisions with respect to timeframes for grant agreement signing of GRA grants, effectively canceling GRA grants that currently do not have a signed grant agreement in place.

BOD/2015/05-10– in reference to BOD/2012/05-01– Policy on Time Frames and Revisions: The Board of Directors approves the Policy on Education Sector Program Implementation Grants, attached as Annex 1 to BOD/2015/05 DOC 11. This revised policy supersedes and replaces the Policy on Time Frames and Revisions, approved by the Board of Directors in decision BOD/2012/05-01.

BOD/2015/05-11—Secretariat Work Plan and Budget: July 2015-June 2016: The Board of Directors:

1. approves the core 12-month budget of the Secretariat of up to US$20,139,300 for the period July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016;

2. approves a supplemental amount of:
    a. US$266,010 for the remaining work on strategic plan preparation;
    b. US$350,000 for DCP meetings in the next 6 month period;
    c. US$50,000 for costs associated with moving to new office space; and
    d. US$100,000 for potential increase in World Bank indirect costs.

BOD/2015/05-12—Role of the Chair in Advocacy: The Board of Directors:

1. emphasizes the many opportunities that currently exist to shape the global education agenda, including those provided by the World Education Forum in Incheon, the Oslo Education Summit, the Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa, the finalization of the Sustainable Development Goals in New York and the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul;
2. recognizes the broad-based efforts underway to strengthen the GPE operating platform and define its measurable goals; and
3. requests the Chair of the Board to lead an active advocacy effort on behalf of the Global Partnership for Education, to engage in conversations on the future global education agenda and supporting coordination architecture including potential new mechanisms for financing education in fragile states, protracted crises and emergencies.

BOD/2015/05-13–Strengthening the GPE Country-Level Operational Platform ("Workstream 1"): The Board of Directors agrees to the following priorities, in order, in the development of Work Stream 1 of the Strategic Plan 2016-2020:

1. emphasizing the need for improvements in the mechanisms used to administer and manage GPE grants at the country level, the Board requests the Secretariat to work with a representative Board reference group of no more than five Board or Alternate Board Members to:
    a. prepare an analysis of the functions, roles and accountabilities needed for the preparation, management and administration of GPE grants;
    b. analyze how those necessary functions, roles and accountabilities should more effectively be performed within the existing model, which operates under the leadership of the government of the Developing Country Partner. This analysis should focus on the pivotal role played by the Secretariat and the roles played by the Supervising and Managing Entities ("SE/ME"), the Local Education Groups and the Coordinating Agencies;
    c. review requirements for such key grant functions as legal, fiduciary, quality assurance, monitoring and reporting, safeguards, conflict resolution, and risk management;
    d. identify any gaps and improvements needed in the above, including necessary minimum standards and other criteria and reporting procedures that will ensure consistency;
    e. submit a plan and timeline for implementation of improvements by the October 15-16, 2015 Board Meeting;
    f. by Q2 2016, conduct an initial review of current constraints/opportunities for operating without an SE/ME, including the potential need for establishing a legal entity for the Global Partnership;
2. recognizing the importance of a Results Framework for the Strategic Plan and the essential role played by monitoring and evaluation, the Board agrees that:
    a. a draft Results Framework will be submitted to the Board for consultation at its meeting on October 15-16, 2015;

b. the Results Framework will be finalized at the December 8-10, 2015 Board meeting;

c. a full corporate monitoring and evaluation strategy will be considered at a date determined after the December 8-10, 2015 Board meeting;

3. recognizing the differentiated needs of Developing Country Partners and the need for other strategic investments, including in knowledge exchange, data and capacity development, the Board requests the Secretariat to prepare an issues paper outlining for discussion at the December 8-10, 2015 Board meeting the strategic finance issues facing the Global Partnership followed by implications, risks and opportunities associated with the introduction of different approaches to accepting financing for these strategic priorities; and

4. acknowledging that the Global Partnership needs to play a stronger role in capacity development and the coordination and dissemination of knowledge and best practice across the Partnership, the Board:

   a. notes that immediate proposed improvements to capacity development and the sharing of knowledge and best practice will be included in the draft implementation plan to be submitted to the Board for consideration at its December 8-10, 2015 meeting;

   b. further notes a broader knowledge and capacity development strategy will be submitted to the Board for discussion, at a date agreed after the December 8-10, 2015 Board meeting.

BOD/2015/05-14—Strategic Plan Concept Note for the 2016-2020 Period and Consultation Plan ("Workstream 2"): The Board of Directors requests the Secretariat to work with a representative Board reference group of no more than five Board or Alternate Board members during the first part of June to refine and finalize the Strategic Plan Concept Note based on the discussions at the May 22-23, 2015 Board meeting. The Concept Note will be used as the main consultation tool for strategic planning over the June 25 2015 to September 2015 period, and will form a central input into the draft Strategic Plan that will be presented to the Board for further discussion at the October 14-15 face-to face Board meeting in Washington D.C.

BOD/2015/05-15–Approval of Allocations for Education Sector Program Implementation Grants: The Board of Directors:

1. approves allocations from GPE trust funds for Education Sector Program Implementation Grants, as described in the applications submitted in the first round of 2015, and summarized in BOD/2015/05-15, 1 (c), subject to:

   a. availability of funds; and

   b. Board decision BOD/2012/11-04 on commitment of trust funds for Program Implementation Grants in annual installments.

   c. CGPC recommendations for funding include (all amounts in US$):

Table 1. Application Summary and CGPC Allocation Recommendation of ESPIGs regulated under the previous GPE Funding Model (in US$)

	Country	**Bangladesh**
a.	Allocation Requested	100,000,000
b.	**Allocation Recommended by CGPC**	**100,000,000**
c.	Supervising Entity	World Bank
d.	Supervision Allocation	600,000
e.	Agency Fee % - Amount	1.75% - 1,750,000
f.	Period	3 years
g.	Funding Source	GPE Fund

Table 2. Application Summaries and CGPC Allocation Recommendations of ESPIGs regulated under the GPE Funding Model for the 2015-2018 period (New Funding Model) in US$

	Country	Mozambique	Nepal	Rwanda	Totals
a.	Allocation Requested (100%)	57,900,000	59,300,000 (11,500,000 from GPE Fund 2 (EC) and 47,800,000 from GPE Fund)	25,200,000	142,400,000
b.	Fixed Part (70% of a.)	40,530,000	41,510,000	17,640,000	99,680,000
c.	Variable Part (30% of a.)	17,370,000	17,790,000	7,560,000	42,720,000
d.	**Allocations Recommended by CGPC**	**57,900,000** (fixed + variable)	**59,300,000** (fixed + variable)	**17,640,000** (fixed part only)	**134,840,000**
b.	Supervising Entity	World Bank	World Bank	DFID	
g.	Supervision Allocation	600,000	600,000	471,000	1,671,000
h.	Agency Fee % - Amount	1.75% - 1,013,250	1.75% - 836,500	n/a	1,849,750
i.	Period	3 years	3 years	3 years	
j.	Variable Part Disbursement Modality	Ex-post	Ex-post	Ex-post	
k.	Funding Source	GPE Fund	GPE Fund/GPE Fund 2	GPE Fund	

2. with respect to the indicators on Equity, Efficiency, and Learning and their means of verification related to the Variable Part of the allocations, as described in the applications and summarized in BOD/2015/05 DOC 08 Rev. 1 Table 3:

    a. approves the indicators on Equity, Efficiency, and Leaning and their means of verification of Mozambique and Nepal;

    b. approves the indicators on Efficiency and Learning and their means of verification of Rwanda and requests Rwanda to revise the indicator on Equity in accordance with the recommendation of the CGPC in BOD/2015/05 DOC 08 Rev. 1 Table 4, delegating authority to the Country Grants and Performance Committee to approve the revised indicator and up to US$7,560,000 as an allocation for the Variable Part;

3. requests the Secretariat to:

    a. include in its notification to each of the relevant Governments, LEGs through the Coordinating Agencies, and Supervising Entities of the approval of the allocations and the expected timeframe for signing of the Grant Agreement, if applicable, the conditions, requests for report-back, and observations on the program as recommended by the CGPC and adjusted by the Board, set out in BOD/2015/05 DOC 08 Rev. 1, Table 4; and

    b. include an update on the issues listed as “conditions” and “report back” in the Portfolio Review.

BOD/2015/05-16—<u>Civil Society Education Fund 2016–2018</u>: The Board of Directors:

1. acknowledges its request to Global Campaign for Education (“GCE”) to develop a new Civil Society Education Fund proposal with a maximum indicative allocation of US$30 million for the 2016-2018 period (BOD/2014/12-13);

2. notes the conclusions of the Country Grants and Performance Committee (“CGPC”) regarding the GCE proposal discussed during its April 14-16, 2015 meeting as set out in Annex 1 of

BOD/2015/05 DOC 14 and requests the Global Campaign for Education to submit a revised proposal accordingly;

3. recognizing the need for timely decision-making to avoid the risk of a disruption in the program, delegates authority to the CGPC to review and approve the revised proposal preferably prior to but no later than its October 27-29, 2015 meeting; and
4. notes the findings of the Quality Assurance Review requested by the Board (BOD/2014/12-13) set out in Annex 2 of CGPC/2015/04-DOC 09, particularly the assessment from an independent firm that GCE has the capacity to act as Managing Entity of the CSEF 2016-2018.