ALICE P. ALBRIGHT
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OCTOBER 27, 2020

Hon. Seve Paeniu
Minister for Finance and Economic Development
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
Funafuti
Tuvalu

Hon. Timi Melei
Minister of Education, Youth and Sports
Ministry of Education, Youth & Sports
Funafuti
Tuvalu

Approval of COVID-19 Accelerated Funding to Support Tuvalu's Education Sector

Excellencies,

On behalf of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), I am pleased to inform you that with the delegated authority from the GPE Board of Directors, I have approved Tuvalu's application for a COVID-19 accelerated funding request in the amount of **US$750,000**. I have also approved a **7%** agency fees for the grant agent, UNICEF, in the amount of **US$52,500**.

The grant has a start date of **November 1, 2020** and an end date of **April 30, 2022**. The full decision language of this approval can be found in the annex to this letter.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Daisuke Kanazawa, Country Lead for Tuvalu.

We look forward to working with you closely to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the education of Tuvalu children.

Sincerely,



Alice P. Albright
Chief Executive Officer
Global Partnership for Education

cc:

Members of Local Education Group
Mr. Faiva. K. Lee Moresi, Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
Dr. Tufoua Panapa, Secretary, Ministry of Education, Youth & Sports
Ms. Falemalu M Malua, DFAT representative, Coordinating Agency for Tuvalu
Mr. Sheldon Yett, Representative, UNICEF Pacific
Ms. Anna Smeby, Chief of Education, UNICEF Pacific
Ms. Saadhna Panday, Education Specialist, Global Education Partnerships Lead, UNICEF
Ms. Poonam Buttan, Public Partnerships Officer, UNICEF
Ms. Reiko Okumura, Public Partnerships Specialist, UNICEF
Ms. Jo Bourne, Chief Technical Officer, GPE Secretariat
Mr. Sven Baeten, Team Lead of Grant Operations, GPE Secretariat
Mr. Nilse Ryman, Regional Manager, GPE Secretariat
Mr. Daisuke Kanazawa, Country Lead and Senior Education Specialist, GPE Secretariat

Annex – Decision Language

In line with the delegated authority granted by the Board of Directors, the GPE CEO approves the COVID-19 accelerated funding request for Tuvalu in the amount of US$750,000 plus an additional US$52,500 in agency fees to UNICEF as Grant Agent. The grant has a start date of November 1, 2020, and an end date of April 30, 2022.

The GPE CEO recognized with appreciation the leadership and commitment of the Government of Tuvalu in preparing a national response plan and grant proposal that will mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the education sector as well as support the recovery of the education system from the crisis.

Recognizing the GPE Board's intent to proceed with the COVID-19 funding on a timeline which acknowledges the COVID-19 emergency, the Government and Grant Agent are asked to move forward with implementation immediately while addressing the following points and reporting back to the Secretariat in the first quarterly progress report:

Request for Report-Back

1. Program emphasis on providing psychosocial support for vulnerable students across Tuvalu is positively noted. Given the importance of this investment to the successful delivery of the program, please add an indicator to the results framework on the completion of training for Psychosocial Support Services coordinators.

The Secretariat also raises the following points of observation, which are recommendations rather than requirements:

Observations

a) Given the urgency of the crisis, grant implementation to commence on schedule and the Grant Agent to submit a cash transfer request within two weeks of approval to facilitate the timely release of funds in support of program implementation.

Reporting

Please note that during the implementation period, the GPE Secretariat will require the Grant Agent to fill out a quarterly survey which will request core data on program implementation. At the end of the implementation period, the Grant Agent is expected to submit a completion report to the GPE Secretariat. Detailed information on the reporting requirement is available in the Guidelines for COVID-19 Accelerated Funding on GPE website.

Reprogramming

The Government and the Grant Agent may reprogram this grant, in consultation with the Local Education Group and where active the Education cluster, for an amount not to exceed 25% of the allocation without prior Secretariat approval but must disclose such cases to the Secretariat. For an amount of 25% or more, as well as for any extension, advance approval from the Secretariat must be sought. The process for advanced approval will be that of non-minor revisions of ESPIG which can be found here: https://www.globalpartnership.org/content/policy-education-sector-program-implementation-grants