FEBRUARY 26, 2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

FINAL DECISION

BOD/AV/2024/02-16 – STRATEGIC PARAMETERS FOR A SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION GRANT AND A GIRLS' EDUCATION ACCELERATOR GRANT TO SOUTH SUDAN

The Board of Directors:

1. Notes the assessment of the Independent Technical Advisory Panel (ITAP) on enabling factors for system transformation in South Sudan, including those considered high priority, as set out in Annex 3 of document BOD/AV/2024/02 DOC 09.
2. Notes the Secretariat's assessment set out in Annex 2, of the strategic parameters of South Sudan's Partnership Compact in Annex 4.
3. Invites South Sudan to submit an application and approves an extension to do so by no later than September 30, 2024, of up to a total of US$37,230,000 for a system transformation grant, in reference to FRC/2021/09-01, and in accordance with the strategic parameters for GPE support as set out in Table 1, with the option to include an additional US$9,200,000, the release of which is conditioned on GPE Board decision that top-up triggers have been achieved.
4. Approves South Sudan's proposed top-up triggers (actions and targets as well as the associated amounts) for accessing part of the allocation.
5. Subject to the Secretariat's confirmation of available Girls' Education Accelerator resources, invites South Sudan to apply for Girls' Education Accelerator funding in accordance with the strategic parameters for GPE support.

Table 1 Summary of Strategic Parameters and Secretariat Allocation Recommendations (all amounts in US$)		
a.	System Transformation Grant (STG) Indicative Allocation	46,430,000[1]
b.	STG Allocation conditioned on achievement of triggers - 20% of Total STG	9,200,000[2]
c.	Conditional Girls' Education Accelerator Indicative Allocation (currently unavailable)	25,000,000
d.	**High Priority Enabling Factors and Conditions for Accessing Additional Allocation*** • Volume, Equity, and Efficiency of Domestic Public Expenditure on Education	

[1] The initial indicative allocation for the system transformation grant was US$56,430,000, of which US$10,000,000 was approved on March 17, 2023, for an accelerated funding to support the response to the humanitarian context, with Save the Children US as grant agent.
[2] While US$9,286,000 would be equal to 20% of the remaining STG allocation of $46,430,000, the Secretariat accepts the proposed US$9,200,000.

	○ Trigger 1 (2,200,000): Submission of 27 FY2024/25 Quarterly Accountability Reports by State Education Transfer Monitoring Committees to the Ministry of General Education and Instruction. ○ Trigger 2 (2,000,000): Approval of the Public Financial Management Policy for South Sudan's Ministry of General Education and Instruction [& subsequent consultations] ○ Trigger 3 (5,000,000): 80% Execution Rate for MOGEI FY2024/25 annual salary budget
e.	**Focus Area for GPE Funding:** • Improved teaching practices • Improved school support • Expanded access for excluded children, including girls and children with disabilities • Improved service delivery and coordination

* Summarized from the partnership compact. See Annex 4 for full details.