MULTIPLY POSSIBILITY
FUND EDUCATION



GPE Transforming Education

There has never been a more urgent moment to invest in girls' education. Conflicts, crises, ripple effects from the COVID-19 pandemic and funding cuts have battered the hopes of the world's most vulnerable girls who are already left behind by traditional education funding. Without the lifeline of a quality education, girls facing poverty, discrimination, violence and child marriage will likely remain trapped in cycles that deny them a prosperous future. The evidence is clear: education is the smartest investment a country can make with the power to boost economic growth, curb infant mortality, improve child nutrition and help end child marriage.

THE AMBITION

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Girls' Education Accelerator is a targeted funding window for governments aimed at improving education for girls in countries where they lag the furthest behind due to fragility, conflict or heavily entrenched and harmful norms.

As part of its 5th financing campaign, GPE is seeking to raise **US$200 million** to fund the Girls' Education Accelerator and provide quality education to **3.2 million girls** facing some of the most daunting barriers to education. Philanthropic partners like the Jannik Sinner Foundation have already pledged funding to meet this goal.

GIRLS' EDUCATION: QUICK FACTS

- **Out of School:** 133 million girls are out of school globally, due to bias, violence, harmful norms and more.
- **Conflict:** In countries affected by fragility and conflict, girls are 2.5 times more likely than boys to be out of primary school and 90% more likely to be out of secondary school.
- **Completion:** 1 out of every 3 girls in sub-Saharan Africa, 1 in every 14 girls in South Asia, and 1 in every 12 girls in the Middle East and North Africa do not complete primary education.
- **Child Marriage:** An estimated 640 million girls and women alive today were married in childhood.

THE OPPORTUNITY COST

- **Inequality:** Investments in school-age girls have the highest returns in tackling future gender inequalities.
- **Earnings:** One additional school year can increase a woman's earnings by up to 20%.
- **Cost:** Limited educational opportunities for girls are costing countries $15 to $30 trillion in lost lifetime productivity and earnings.

For all sources visit: www.globalpartnership.org/data.

"The Girls' Education Accelerator is truly catalyzing Zimbabwe's ambition for girls and young women. Through our partnership with the Global Partnership for Education, we are able to provide comprehensive financial, social and academic support that directly addresses the specific challenges faced by the most marginalized girls—working in partnership with our communities to tackle issues of dropout and damaging social norms."

Muranda Phanuel Masimba, Zimbabwe Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education

With $200 million, the Girls' Education Accelerator will initially fund the eight partner countries[1] deferred in the first funding cycle due to oversubscription and expand support to additional countries where education opportunities for girls are needed the most, including countries with some of the world's highest child marriage rates and those affected by conflict and fragility.

HOW IT WORKS

The Girls' Education Accelerator goes much further than a standalone girls' education program. Funding is tied to and works alongside other GPE grants (system transformation grant and the GPE Multiplier) to boost investments in the policies, strategies and programs that address the unique challenges that the most marginalized girls face.

The Girls' Education Accelerator works to transform the entire education system, not just individual programs, allowing it to deliver sustainable and long-lasting impact. There is no prescriptive formula for funded activities, giving governments the flexibility to design context-appropriate programs.

Maximizing the Impact of Private and Philanthropic Investments

Through the Girls' Education Accelerator, businesses and private foundations have an exceptional opportunity to amplify their impact. **GPE matches private sector and philanthropic contributions dollar for dollar**[2]—effectively doubling the reach of their investments.

RESULTS

The Girls' Education Accelerator raised $225 million between 2021-2025. This funding supports policy change and programs in 15 countries[3] and has helped provide **3.6 million marginalized girls with a quality education** in some of the world's most challenging contexts:

- **Expanding school access:** In Somalia, investments in safer schools, robust child protection systems and gender-responsive teacher training have driven measurable progress, with primary enrollment rates for girls rising from 28% to 31% since 2024.
- **Tackling harmful stereotypes:** El Salvador revised early childhood education teaching materials and practices, ensuring they promote equality between boys and girls rather than reinforce gender stereotypes.
- **Driving long-lasting policy change:** Chad is embedding the recruitment and retention of female teachers into the country's education sector planning and implementation.
- **Breaking down barriers across multiple dimensions:** South Sudan has expanded girls' access to education through climate-resilient school facilities, alternative education programs for pastoralist communities, comprehensive health and life skills training, including menstrual health management and assistive devices for girls with disabilities.

1 Cameroon, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Togo and Yemen.
2 GPE will match a total of $50 million in contributions from such sources to the Girls' Education Accelerator and other eligible funding mechanisms under GPE 2030—GPE's strategic plan for 2026 to 2030.
3 Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Mozambique, Niger, São Tomé and Príncipe, Somalia, South Sudan and Zimbabwe.

Multiply possibility. Fund education. Fund GPE.