# COUNTRY COMMITMENTS TO EDUCATION DOMESTIC FINANCING

Education Financing Campaign

*"Education Multiplies Possibilities: Investing in our future"*

*Education is essential to achieve national development goals. Domestic finance is the backbone of education investments. It is the most sustainable source of education funding. However, without decisive actions at the country level, education systems will face wider learning gaps and will not be able to contribute to inclusive growth. Therefore, as part of a global education financing campaign, the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), is encouraging countries to enhance domestic financing for education. GPE will bring together all country commitments to highlight the scale of current collective efforts and potential of prioritizing education.*

***How can you contribute to the education financing campaign in your own country?***

1. *Countries are expected to make commitments in any of the three dimensions of domestic financing (Volume/Adequacy, Efficiency and Equity), based on their respective context and best available evidence.*
2. *Examples of policy actions are provided below in the template. Countries may propose new areas of commitment that will increase Volume and/or improve Efficiency and/or Equity of domestic financing for education.*
3. *For each commitment, countries are encouraged to indicate the expected results/change in resources allocated to education.*

***Note**: To fill out this template, please consult available National Development Plan, Education Sector Plan (ESP), Mid-Term Expenditure Framework, Partnership Compact or other officially approved policies.*

*Thank you for participating in this Global Education Financing Campaign. Your inputs will help amplify the efforts of your country and will help elevate education as a global priority.*

**Country Partner Identification**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Country name:** | Timor-Leste |
| **Ministry/Institution:** | Ministry of Education |
| **Date:** | 26 January 2026 |

## 1.Volume commitment

1.1. Please select your areas of commitment by checking relevant boxes below (select all that apply):

☒ Increase or maintain education expenditure level as a share of national budget (excluding. debt services)

☐ Increase or maintain education expenditure as a share of GDP

☐ Other (please specify)

1.2. Description of education budget perimeter

***Please list all line ministries responsible*** *for elements included in the calculation of education expenditures. Ideally this description should identify where in the national budget relevant elements are recorded*:

Education expenditures included in this commitment cover allocations recorded in the **State Budget** under the following institutions:

- **Ministry of Education:**
  - Pre-school, basic education, secondary education
  - Teacher salaries and professional development
  - Curriculum development and learning materials
  - School infrastructure rehabilitation and construction
- **Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Culture:**
  - Higher education institutions and scholarships
- **Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion:**
  - Social protection programs (Bolsa da Mãe) linked to education
- **Municipal Authorities under Ministry of State Administration:**
  - School feeding and Education-related service delivery at local level for preschool, basic and recurrent education
- **National University of Timor-Leste**
- **Institute Polytechnic of Betano**

MULTIPLY POSSIBILITY FUND EDUCATION

- **Instituto Nacional de Ciéncia e Tecnologia**
- **National Agency for Academic Evaluation and Accreditation**
- **Fundo Desenvolvimento do Capital Humano**

1.3. Historical and projected expenditure

| 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Percentage (as a share of national budget): 7,6% | Percentage (as a share of national budget): 8,6% | Percentage (as a share of national budget): 8,6% | Percentage (as a share of national budget): 8,6% | Percentage (as a share of national budget): 8,6% | Percentage (as a share of national budget): 8,6% |
| Percentage (as a share of GDP):9,8% | Percentage (as a share of GDP): 9,9% | Percentage (as a share of GDP): | Percentage (as a share of GDP): | Percentage (as a share of GDP) : | Percentage (as a share of GDP) : |
| Percentage (Other): | Percentage (Other): | Percentage (Other): | Percentage (Other): | Percentage (Other): | Percentage (Other): |
| Monetary value - *Currency: USD* *-Amount: 198,719,700* | Monetary value - *Currency:* *-Amount: 210,692,234* | Monetary value - *Currency:* *-Amount: 219,119,923* | Monetary value - *Currency:* *-Amount: 227,884,720.29* | Monetary value -*Currency:* *-Amount:* 247,482,806 | Monetary value - *Currency:* *-Amount: 269,013,810* |

*Do you have plans to increase* ***education expenditure per child:*** ☒*Yes* ☐*No*

*If Yes, please provide*

*Currency: USD*
*-Baseline:*
*- Year: 2025*
*- Amount per child:*

*- Target:8,6%*
*-Year: 2027*
*- Amount per child:*

*Indicate the policy framework or any other official documents where information on the baseline and targets can be found*:

- Education Sector Plan (ESP) 2026 - 2030
- GPE Partnership Compact
- National Development Plan 2011–2030

### 1.4. Basis for commitment to increase funding for education

***Please list, and briefly describe, any planned or ongoing actions aimed at increasing resources for education*** *— for example*:

☒*Raising additional revenues (e.g., through tax reforms or better tax collection), specify Strengthening domestic revenue mobilization through tax administration reforms and improved compliance*

☒*Developing strategies for long-term, sustainable education financing (e.g., earmarked taxes, public-private partnerships, etc.), specify: Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) is a three-year rolling budgeting tool that aligns government spending with strategic priorities like human capital and education*

☒*Improving budget execution, specify: Strengthening procurement planning, cash management, and school-level fund utilization*

☒*Other, specify Increased alignment of donor financing with national systems to complement domestic resources*

*Note: Please ensure that listed actions are supported by the National Development Plan, Education Sector Plan (ESP), Partnership Compact or other officially approved policies.*

## 2.Efficiency commitment

***Please list, and briefly describe any planned or ongoing actions to improve efficiency of education finance and expected results*** *— for example*:

☒*Improving public financial management systems for better governance, accountability and delivery. - Specify* Strengthening planning, execution, and reporting systems within the Ministry of Education. The Government of Timor-Leste has undertaken measures to strengthen results-based program budgeting and to enhance regular reporting mechanisms within the Ministry of Education.

☒*Streamlining teacher management and remuneration mechanisms. - Specify Teacher deployment based on student-teacher ratios and school needs, particularly in rural areas*

☒*Reduce fragmented financing and implementation mechanisms. - Specify Better coordination of development partners-funded projects under MoE leadership*

☒*Enhancing education and financial data tracking systems and availability. - Specify Strengthening EMIS and linking education data with budget planning.*

☒*Adopting innovative budgeting approaches oriented towards education outcomes (e.g. results-based budgeting). - Specify Gradual introduction of program- and results-based budgeting aligned with ESP prioritie*

☒*Enhancing service delivery to improve learning, retention, and completion. – Specify Focus on foundational learning, school readiness, retention, and completion rates*

☐*Other, specify.*

*Note: Please ensure that listed actions are supported by the National Development Plan, Education Sector Plan (ESP), Partnership Compact or other officially approved policies.*

## 3.Equity commitment

***Please list, and briefly describe any planned or ongoing actions to promote equitable resource allocation*** *— for example:*

☒ *Strengthening redistributive policies and mechanisms (including needs-based funding formulas for schools or teachers' allocation).* A number of redistributive policies have been considered, including needs-based allocation of teachers and learning materials, with priority given to rural and remote schools. In addition, a decree establishing subsidies and grants within the school system has been considered. This decree provides financial support to educational institutions and social solidarity organizations to improve access to education. The subsidies and grants may potentially cover support under the Hafurak Eskola Program, initiatives to promote youth participation in technical and vocational education, implementation of the intensive early childhood education program, and support for special education.

☒ *Tracking of equitable resource distribution: Disaggregated monitoring by municipality, gender, and vulnerability.* The implementation of gender-responsive budgeting is supported by a comprehensive budget-tracking system that integrates gender parity considerations. Both the Education Management Information System (EMIS) and the Free Balance System systematically tag gender-related budget allocations, including at the outcome level, to enable effective monitoring and accountability.

☒ *Adopting pro-poor budgeting mechanisms, gender-based or disability-based budgeting approaches.: Targeted support for girls, children with disabilities, and students from low-income households and multi-language background.*

☒*Directing resources to reduce gaps in school access: Expansion of pre-school services and rehabilitation of schools in underserved areas, including implementation of short-term preparation program to ensure school readiness.*

☐*Other, specify*

*Note: Please ensure that listed actions are supported by the National Development Plan, Education Sector Plan (ESP), Partnership Compact or other officially approved policies.*

*Please indicate all the institutions that endorsed the commitment as relevant*

☐Head of State Office ☐ Prime Minister Office ☐ Ministry of Finance ☒ Ministry of Education ☐Other Ministries or agencies (please specify)