JUNE 3-4, 2026 – MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PARIS, FRANCE – BOD/2026-06 DOC 06 – FOR DECISION
GPE 2030 ELIGIBILITY AND ALLOCATION

Please note: In accordance with the GPE Transparency Policy, documents are public only after their appraisal by the relevant governance instance. Governance officials may circulate documents to their constituency for consultation purposes, except for documents of a confidential nature.

Key issues for consideration:

- Members of the Finance and Risk Committee (FRC) expressed appreciation for the Secretariat's approach to balancing the need to make timely decisions to manage funding disruption risks with the uncertainty around level of available funds given the postponement of the replenishment.
- While supporting the recommendations around prioritization of Low Income Countries, members also stressed the importance of support to Least Developed Countries (LDC), and Fragile and Conflict Affected States (FCAS), noting the Secretariat's explanation that 69% of new country allocations would be available for LDCs and 62% to FCAS in a US$3 billion scenario
- Members sought clarity on the impact of a lower than US$3 billion replenishment and how the recommendation of approving allocations for a subset of countries would affect other countries whose funding cycles end at different times in a lower scenario.
- The Secretariat noted that if resources are substantially less than US$3 billion, the FRC and Board would need to be engaged in a difficult discussion to determine whether to maintain the same approach to eligibility and allocation and spread resources thinner or take an alternative approach to concentrate resources.
- It further noted that the decision to allocate based on a US$3 billion scenario to the first six countries was made to support their planning and to avoid disruption of any reduction while they were advancing proposal development. If the replenishment was lower than US$3 billion, the impact of slightly higher allocations for the first group would be spread across the remaining countries and would be relatively small.
- The committee recommended revisions to the initial decision language in order to ensure sufficient flexibility to either increase or decrease indicative allocations based on replenishment outcomes. It requested the Secretariat communicate with the initial six countries the context and reasons for this decision, and that remaining partner countries also understand the need to wait until December.
- The FRC further recommended decision language to capture the potential need for the Secretariat to engage the FRC and Board in strategic discussions related to eligibility and allocation if GPE2030 resources are projected to be substantively below US$3 billion – the low case scenario in which Board decisions on Eliigbility and Allocation were initially made in June 2025.

Objective

1. Due to the Global Education Summit being postponed, the Board of Directors is requested to review, for its decision, recommendations to support the early rollout of allocations under GPE 2030, following the eligibility and allocation formula, parameters, and scenarios approved in June 2025 (BOD/2025/06-07).

Recommended Decision

BOD/2026/06-XX — GPE 2030 Eligibility and Allocation: The Board of Directors:

Country Allocations

1. Recognizing the importance of predictable funding for eligible countries and programs, and the risk of existing funding being exhausted shortly for a small number of eligible countries, tentatively approves the following indicative allocations valid for the 2026-2030 Financing Period:

Table 1. GPE 2030 Indicative Allocations (All figures in USD)

Country	System Transformation Allocation	Multiplier Allocation	System Capacity Grant	Total
Syrian Arab Republic	9,870,000	4,230,000	2,250,000	16,350,000
Rwanda	8,400,000	3,600,000	1,250,000	13,250,000
Somalia	28,490,000	12,210,000	2,250,000	42,950,000
Kenya		28,800,000	2,000,000	30,800,000
Zimbabwe		10,000,000	2,250,000	12,250,000
Nepal		10,000,000	1,750,000	11,750,000
Total	**46,760,000**	**68,840,000**	**11,750,000**	**127,350,000**

2. Notes that if the projected resources available are higher or lower after the Global Education Summit, the indicative allocation amounts listed above may be increased or decreased accordingly. The Secretariat will present final allocation amounts for review by FRC in October 2026 and recommendation to the Board.

Prioritizing Resources for Low Income Countries

3. Refers to its decision BOD/2025/06-07 on eligibility and allocation for GPE 2030 and notes that based on the scenarios presented, approximately 50 percent of the value of country allocations should be available for the 25 countries currently classified as low income, a similar share as under GPE 2025.
4. Determines that if the Global Education Summit results in projected resources being lower than the scenarios previously presented, the Secretariat should propose options that would maintain a similar share of funds to low-income countries.

First-Come First-Served Countries

5. Recalls its decision BOD/2024/12-08 to limit the necessity of the first-come first-served approach for all eligible countries to restrict the first-come, first-served approach where possible, and notes that 74 of 96 eligible GPE 2030 countries will receive indicative allocations.
6. Requests that the Secretariat propose options to the Finance and Risk Committee (FRC) and Board after the Global Education Summit, outlining indicative allocations for all eligible countries and adjusting minimum and maximum allocation sizes as needed.

Eligibility

7. Recalling its decision BOD/2025/06-07 on eligibility for the 2026-2030 financing period, notes that there are a small number of eligible countries under GPE 2025 and GPE 2030 that have not taken active steps to join the partnership.
8. Given the need to prioritize funding and intent to provide indicative allocation for all, revokes eligibility for the 2026-2030 period for the following middle-income countries: India, Morocco, and Algeria.

Education Out Loud

9. Invites Oxfam Denmark, as the selected grant agent for the GPE 2030 Education Out Loud program, to develop 3-year and 4-year programs for up to US$45 million plus agency fees, for review by PILC in October 2026 and recommendation to the Board.
10. Depending on the outcome of the Global Education Summit, funding may increase, allowing for a 3-year program with a possible costed extension after a mid-term review by June 2029. If no additional funds are expected, a 4-year program will be considered instead. Funding may also decrease to ensure the previous Board Decision (BOD/2025/06-07) "to make available the lower of 3 percent or $100 million of newly available grant funds for EOL" is respected.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

11. Delegates authority to the CEO to approve up to US$5.3 million plus applicable fees as a Global System Capacity Grant to support delivery of the GPE 2030 Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning work program as set out in BOD/2026/06 DOC 10.
12. Authorizes these funds to be spent as either grants from the GPE Fund or as administrative expenses based on the Secretariat's assessment of the most efficient and effective modality to use.

Prioritizing resources post-replenishment

13. Determines that if the Global Education Summit results in projected resources being substantively lower than $3 billion, the Secretariat should engage with the FRC and Board in a strategic discussion to assess whether more substantive changes to the current

rules for eligibility and allocation for GPE2030 (BOD/2025/06-07) are needed, and propose options accordingly.

Background and overview

1. Since the Global Education Summit has been postponed to 2026, it is not currently possible to confidently estimate new indicative allocations or reinforcing mechanisms for eligible countries. Indicative allocations for GPE 2030 will therefore be presented to the Finance and Risk Committee for recommendation to the Board at its December 2026 meeting, after the Global Education Summit. The new timeline will likely delay or disrupt the timing for some countries who are currently in negotiations to mobilize additional financing to unlock the Multiplier but having clarity on available resources will be beneficial for all countries.
2. **Indicative allocations:** Since several eligible countries may deplete their current program funds before new applications can be considered, it is recommended to approve indicative allocations for a limited number of countries. This approach is based on the low replenishment scenario previously outlined in annex A of BOD/2025/06 DOC 10, which was reviewed by the Board during its decisions for the 2026-2030 financing period (BOD/2025/06-07). The Secretariat continues to consider a US$3 billion replenishment scenario as a realistic prospect, while acknowledging that the actual figure may be higher or lower, which will affect allocation amounts. Should the outcome result in higher indicative allocations, these amounts will be adjusted accordingly.
3. **Education Out Loud (EOL):** Although a no-cost extension has been granted, national education coalitions may still face funding shortages if development of the next program is delayed for several months. To manage this risk, it is proposed to develop a new program as scheduled, using 75 percent of the indicative allocation for a $3 billion scenario. If available resources are lower than this, the newly selected grant agent will need to develop the program over a 4-year period. However, if available resources are higher, the initial allocation can be used over three years, with more funds added after a mid-term review for later periods. A costed six-month extension of the program for US$7 million, deducted from the GPE 2030 Education Out Loud allocation, is an option. However, the Secretariat believes this would delay the new design framework's implementation.
4. **First-come first-served approach:** Following Board direction, indicative allocations have now been provided to most countries, decreasing reliance on the first-come first-served approach. Currently 74 of 96 eligible countries will be provided with an indicative allocation. There are 22 countries—lower-middle-income with GNI per capita above $3,000 and upper-middle-income graduating nations—that must compete for funds without an indicative allocation. Several members and partners have proposed that all should receive indicative allocations, even if it means reducing the maximum amounts for these countries.

5. Of the 22 countries, India, Morocco, and Algeria have been eligible for funding under GPE 2025 but have not taken active steps to join the partnership despite outreach from the Secretariat. Considering the necessity to prioritize funding, and assuming consensus to eliminate the first come, first served approach, it would be reasonable to withdraw these countries from eligibility under GPE 2030. This would reduce the amount of funds required to provide an indicative allocation for the remaining 19 countries, improving prospects for being able to do so.
6. Should the Board concur with the recommendation, the Secretariat will develop proposals following the Global Education Summit to remove the first-come first-served approach and provide an indicative allocation for all eligible countries under GPE 2030.
7. **Prioritizing Resources for Low-Income Countries:** While the Secretariat noted that the share of country allocations to the 25 eligible low-income countries should remain at or around 50 percent of total allocations under GPE 2030 based on the eligibility and allocation scenarios of US$3 to 5 billion, a number of stakeholders have raised the concern of whether this will be maintained if the scenarios are lower than this. In this case, the Secretariat would propose allocations to keep a similar percentage. To reassure stakeholders, the Board could clarify its intention through a formal decision, ensuring donors have no uncertainty as they confirm their pledges.
8. **Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning work program:** The approach to Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) discussed with the Performance, Impact, and Learning Committee, and recommended to the Board (BOD/2026/06 DOC 10) is to provide system capacity funding that would 1) leverage the strength of the partnership to implement the country learning studies portfolio and the program and thematic evaluations; and 2) support the Global Education Monitoring report team to update the Board annually on partner countries' SDG-4 indicators. A 5-year envelope of US$5.3 million is proposed for this purpose out of a total MEL budget of just over US$6 million.
9. **Coordinating agencies:** The Secretariat also notes that it is considering proposals for how best to support coordinating agencies particularly in some fragile and conflict-affected settings where the demands on coordinating agencies can be very high and may require dedicated support. An update and any proposals will be provided to the committees and Board after the Global Education Summit.

Annex A - Additional Explanation and Analysis

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Country Allocations

1. The proposal is to announce indicative allocations for GPE 2030 based on an estimated US$3 billion replenishment scenario. The criteria for inclusion is countries eligible for an indicative allocation and where the program is scheduled to end before June 2027 and current and projected utilization on existing programs is that funds will be practically exhausted by then.
2. Based on this criteria, six partner countries would be eligible, Syria, Somalia, Rwanda, Kenya, Nepal, and Zimbabwe. Remaining countries will be notified in December following the Board meeting and after confirmation of available resources is available.
3. In the case of the Arab Coordination Group Smart Education Financing Initiative (ACG SmartEd), where the Board already approved an additional US$50 million subject to availability of funds (BOD/2023/12-02), the Secretariat will conditionally approve any valid Expressions of Interest that meet all GPE 2030 criteria. This will allow program development to proceed for countries eligible for an indicative allocation and provided the amounts are likely to be within the country allocation ceiling. The formal lifting of the conditions to facilitate grant approval would be made following final Board confirmation of the indicative allocations and approval of strategic parameters for the country.
4. System transformation grant eligible countries have a minimum 30 percent share of their overall country allocation reserved for the Multiplier. As directed by the Board (BOD/2025/06-07), they may request to convert such funds to system transformation grant funding if they are unsuccessful in mobilizing additional finance to unlock the Multiplier. The guidance to be provided to such countries is that provided they have made reasonable and timely efforts to secure resources to unlock the Multiplier but have not secured such resources through an approved Expression of Interest by 31 December 2028, they may request for any unallocated Multiplier indicative allocation to be added to their existing or planned system transformation grant using the selected grant agent. The Secretariat believes this approach provides a reasonable balance in terms of encouraging countries to mobilize additional finance for education while also ensuring that they do not lose out on resources if unsuccessful.
5. The Secretariat notes that the amounts available for new allocations will not only be impacted by the size of the pledges made, but also the confidence levels of projections that can reasonably be included in the financial forecast, the timing of

donor contributions including the extent to which contributions are backloaded towards end of 2030 or go beyond that date, and the timing of when countries will be in a position to access new allocations. The Secretariat will develop a financial forecast following the Global Education Summit for review by the Finance and Risk Committee (FRC) that factors all of this into consideration based on latest available information and will also propose options for any carryover into the GPE 2035 period which will also impact on new allocation levels. The table below illustrates based on currently available information; how much is likely to be available for new allocations under a US$3 billion scenario.

	Amount (in US$ Millions)
New Donor Pledges	$3,000
Less Carryover from GPE 2025	($950)
Plus Carryover into GPE 2035[1]	$350
Resources Available	$2,400
Less Set Aside for OPEX/Trustee[2]	($280)
Available for New Programs (inclusive of agency fees)	$2,120

Reinforcing Mechanisms (Education Out Loud, Knowledge and Innovation Exchange, and Technical Assistance Initiatives)

6. In December 2025, the Board approved the design framework (Annex A of BOD/2025/12 DOC 07) for the next phase of Education Out Loud (EOL) and acknowledged the proposed criteria and procedure for selecting grant agents for the upcoming phase of the initiative (Annex C of BOD/2025/12 DOC 07).
7. The process agreed by the Board entails that the Secretariat will inform the Board once the grant agent has been selected in May (process led by the Secretariat and approved by the CEO), and the Board will be requested in its June meeting to confirm the allocation post replenishment (earlier scheduled on June 9) and invite the grant agent to develop and submit a portfolio application for review by the Performance, Impact and Learning Committee (PILC) in October and approval by the Board in December. The timing was designed to ensure that the next phase would avoid any disruption in funding to the national education coalitions. EOL experience demonstrates that national education coalitions are long term system

[1] The proposed carryover into GPE 2035 was originally estimated at 20 percent for preliminary scenario planning but has been reduced to a little over 10% as we expect higher grant allocations earlier in the cycle and later donor contributions. This reduces the amounts that can be reasonably financed from a future replenishment period. This amount will be monitored closely and may be adjusted once we have better clarity on donor pledges.
[2] Operational expenses (OPEX) based on 7 percent of projected disbursements.

actors reliant on continuity of capacity and relationships with governments. A funding gap would undermine confidence in predictability of GPE's funding and weaken country level engagement, where coalitions are often the main civil society interlocutors for the education needs of marginalized communities.

8. The Secretariat's proposal is therefore to commence work on the next phase as scheduled with a conservative indicative allocation amount that may be adjusted later. An alternative approach would be a costed extension of the existing program and while this would mitigate the risk of disruption in funding, it would delay the implementation of the new program that should be based on the new Board approved design framework.
9. With respect to **Knowledge and Innovation Exchange**, the selected grant agent is International Development Research Centre (IDRC). There is not the same risk in delaying the new indicative allocation until December 2026 so no decision is recommended at this stage. To assist with any initial planning by the grant agent in anticipation of the formal announcement, a preliminary estimate of the allocation amount likely to be available based on 75 -100 percent of the current projected envelope under a $3 billion scenario would be US$30-US$40 million.
10. With respect to the **Technical Assistance Initiatives**, the review of this mechanism is expected to be completed later in 2026, so a December decision on new indicative allocations is in line with original plans.