

Annex 1: Template for Country Commitments

Recognizing the enormous pressures and significant uncertainties facing governments and policymakers at this time, and the need to ensure commitments are credible, the following principles are designed to guide their formulation.

Volume commitment				
Basis for commitment (%)				
Please select one of the boxes below (click on the box):				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education expenditure as a share of total budget (<i>incl. debt servicing</i>)	Education expenditure as a share of total budget (<i>excl. debt servicing</i>)	Education expenditure as a share of GDP	Per capita education expenditure as a share of per capita GDP (<i>by sub-sector</i>)	Other % (please specify)
Description of education budget perimeter				
<p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Labour and Human Resources (MOLHR- TVET), Bhutan Council for School Examinations and Assessment (BCSEA), Royal Education Council (REC-Curriculum), Education Sector budget for 20 Districts, 4 Municipal Cities & Blocks, Royal Institute of Management (RIM), Royal University of Bhutan (RUB), Dzongkha Development Commission (DDC), Centre for Bhutan & GNH Studies (CBS), Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan (KGUMSB), JSW School of Law, Bhutan National Legal Institute (BNLI),</i></p>				
Historical and projected expenditures (%)				
<p><i>Please include all available historical expenditures (executed budget), as well final projected value for the year in which your commitment ends. Inclusion of intermediate values are encouraged but not required. If your commitment ends before 2025 (the duration of GPE's new strategic plan) please provide a brief rationale below (eg. alignment of commitment duration with country MTEF).</i></p>				

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
21.56	22.45	18.19*	20.68	21.35	20.76	21.75

Rationale (optional):

*All schools in the country were closed for one academic year from March 2020 till March 2021. The major duration for school closure fell under FY 2020-2021. Therefore, there was a significant reduction in recurrent expenditure for education owing to reduction in O & M budget which includes utility (electricity, fuel, internet charges), maintenance, trainings, workshops, feeding stipend. As a result, the education expenditure fell below 20% mark in the year 2021 (FY 2020-2021)

Other indicative policy commitments

Please describe here any significant policy commitments on equity and efficiency on areas of priority for your country. These might include gender, equality, better management of the teacher workforce, improvements in timeliness and accessibility of data for mutual accountability, national recovery stimulus spending targeting education, as well cross sector imperatives, including restoring/expanding school health and nutrition programs to leave no one behind etc. We also encourage commitments to strengthen the working relationship between Ministries of Finance and Education.

Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD). ECCD coverage target of 50% by 2024 and 100% by 2030

Free Basic Education (Pre-Primary to Grade X) as per Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan

Improve learning outcomes of students by carrying out periodic National Education Assessments in classes III, VI, X and XII

*Digitization of Schools by integrating ICT in teaching and learning process, introduction of coding and ICT curriculum right from primary schools, infrastructure and capacity development
Focus on STEM Education*

Improve quality and inclusive Education. At least one school with Special Educational Needs (SEN) program in all Districts & Municipalities

Improve health and wellbeing of students through school health and nutrition programs, adequate WASH facilities

Youth development through scouting, counselling, sports and physical activities and establishment of youth centers to engage both in-school and out- of school youth to prevent emerging youth issues

Professional Development of teachers- MoE mandates 80 hours of PD per teacher per year

Students who walk more than 1 hour to school are enrolled in a boarding school with three meals a day. The government provides Nu. 1500 as feeding stipend per child per month

Strengthen and expand TVET programs

To maintain at least 20% of total public expenditure on education

Volume commitment

Other Ministries and LEG

Please indicate if this commitment was endorsed by other ministries as relevant, including the ministry of finance, and has been shared with the LEG:

The Ministry of Education in consultation with MoF had submitted a note to PMO seeking endorsement of a political declaration and call to action on domestic financing for education. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bhutan has directed the MoE to submit to the Cabinet for deliberation and endorsement in the next Cabinet Meeting to seek Cabinet's support and give it a national drive. The Cabinet meeting was scheduled on 13 July, 2021. However, it was deferred due to some reasons. So, the domestic commitment on education will be shared with LEG once we receive endorsement from the Cabinet.
