

GUIDELINES FOR ACCELERATED SUPPORT IN EMERGENCY AND EARLY RECOVERY SITUATIONS*

April 2019

*approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting on November 19-20, 2012

1. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD AND FUNDING

Countries Eligible for Accelerated Funding

1.1 Countries eligible for accelerated funding under these guidelines include those that are:

- a. eligible for education sector program implementation grant (ESPIG) funding;
- b. affected by a crisis for which a humanitarian appeal has been launched and published by the UN Office of Coordination for Humanitarian Affairs, with education as a part of that appeal; and
- c. able to demonstrate that GPE funds will not displace government and/or other donor funds, but will be in addition to other resources.

Implementation Period

1.2 The implementation period for accelerated funding is one year, but an extension may be considered according to the nature of the activities and context. It is expected that by the end of the one-year implementation period, the application for the remainder of the country's indicative allocation will have been submitted.

Activities Eligible for Funding

1.3 The total amount of accelerated funding for emergency and early recovery activities will be based on the education cluster needs assessment and agreed upon by the local education group (LEG). It cannot exceed 20% of the then-current indicative allocation for ESPIGs applicable to the country. Activities could include, but are not limited to, emergency activities such as temporary shelters, school meals and distribution of school supplies, as well as activities critical to establishing or rebuilding education services, such as classroom construction, teacher remuneration and school grants.

2. PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION AND APPROVAL

Step 1: Initiating the Process

The LEG in consultation with the education cluster initiates the process by verifying with the Secretariat whether the country is eligible for accelerated support to cover emergency and/or early recovery activities.

Step 2: Designation of a Grant Agent

The LEG, in consultation with the education cluster, selects a grant agent to manage the emergency and early recovery funding. Selection of the grant agent should be guided by the terms of reference for grant agents,² with particular attention to the agency's ability to operate in the emergency or post-emergency context and provide rapid scale-up of support. To avoid delays in the transfer of funds, grant agents must be selected among agencies that have a Transfer Agreement for the GPE Fund executed prior to the submission of the application.

Step 3: Development of the proposal

The grant agent develops a proposal in close collaboration with the LEG and the education cluster. The format and internal approval process of the proposal follows the grant agent's internal procedures for emergency assistance programs. The proposal must:

- a. be based on the education cluster's emergency needs assessment and/or an assessment of early recovery needs;
- b. provide information on the sources of financing for other emergency and early recovery activities planned and information demonstrating that GPE funds will not displace government or other donor funding; and
- c. contain an operational plan indicating activities, budgets, implementation strategies and a description of how activities will be sub-contracted to other organizations as appropriate.

The Secretariat will be in close dialogue with the LEG and education cluster through the coordinating agency during the preparation of the proposal, reviewing and giving feedback on draft versions. The Secretariat will immediately notify the Grants and Performance Committee (GPC) once it confirms that a request will be made by the LEG for accelerated support.

Step 4: Application submission

The development partner group must endorse the proposal, and, where possible, the developing country government also endorses it. The coordinating agency submits the completed application package to the Secretariat.

² <https://www.globalpartnership.org/content/terms-reference-gpe-grant-agents>

Step 5: Application review

The Secretariat conducts a final readiness review of the application package, with due attention to the relevance, quality and feasibility of the planned activities, and prepares a summary for decision.

Step 6: Decision

The Secretariat submits the application package to the GPC. The GPC will review the application package and make a decision, preferably using a non-objection process.

Step 7: Transfer of funds

Following approval by the GPC, the Secretariat conveys the approval to the Trustee. The Trustee will send a commitment letter to the designated grant agent, who will in turn request a transfer of funds.

Anticipated Timeframes

Activity	Estimated Timeframe
Step 1: Initiating the process	1 week
Step 2: Designation of a grant agent	
Step 3: Development of the proposal Step 4: Application submission	1-2 weeks
Step 5: Application review by Secretariat and recommendation to GPC	2 weeks
Step 6: GPC approval	2 weeks
Step 7: Transfer of funds	1 week

3. IMPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATION SECTOR PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

3.1 With regard to the application for the ESPIG that will be submitted subsequently, the calculation of the 70 percent fixed part and 30 percent variable part will be based on the remaining indicative allocation.³

³ BOD/2017/12-05—Accelerated Funding and the Size of the Variable Part of the ESPIG

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