

SECRETARIAT CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ALLOCATION FOR AN ESPIG AND A MULTIPLIER GRANT TO VANUATU

Reference	Decision
CEO/2020/12-01	<p>Allocation for an Education Sector Program Implementation Grant and Multiplier Grant to Vanuatu</p> <p>The CEO, in her delegated authority from the Board of Directors with respect to the application submitted by Vanuatu in 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Notes compliance with the requirements for accessing the maximum country allocations for an ESPIG and a Multiplier grant (MCAM), as described in the application and assessed in the Secretariat quality assurance review phase III report (Annex A), including the requirements of co-financing, additionality, and debt sustainability for accessing the MCAM.2. Approves an allocation from GPE trust funds for an ESPIG and multiplier grant, as described in the application submitted and summarized in Table 1, subject to:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Availability of funds.b. Board decision BOD/2012/11-04 on commitment of trust funds for ESPIGs in annual installments.c. Review Meeting's recommendation for funding, including (all amounts in US\$):

3. Requests the Secretariat to:
- Include in its notification of grant approval to Vanuatu the requests for report-backs and observations as recommended by the Review Meeting and set out in Table 2.
 - Include an update on the issues listed as “report backs” in the Grant Performance Report in accordance with the specified timeline.

Table 1		
a.	ESPIG Maximum Country Allocation	2,000,204 ¹
b.	Multiplier Maximum Country Allocation	1,000,000
c.	Allocation Requested	3,000,204
d.	Fixed Part	3,000,204
e.	Allocation Recommended	3,000,204
f.	Grant Agent	Save the Children Australia
g.	Agency Fee % - Amount	7% or 210,014.28
h.	Grant Agent's Implementation Support Costs	395,168 ²
i.	Period	Two years and nine months
j.	Expected Start Date	April 1, 2021
k.	Funding Source	GPE Fund
l.	Multiplier Co-financing Institution(s) - Amounts	DFAT (Australia) 6,009,900 & NZAid (New Zealand) 640,000

¹ The Maximum Country Allocation (MCA) for Vanuatu was increased in 2019 to US\$2.5 million. US\$ 499,796 was deducted from the MCA in June 2020, and allocated to ESPIG Accelerated Funding, hence the amount of US\$ 2,000,204.

² This amount is to be funded from the grant and is not in addition to the grant amount

Table 2 – Review Meeting Observations and Report-Backs

<p>Observations</p>	<p>The Secretariat would like to commend the Government of Vanuatu on the development of its comprehensive and long-term sector strategy, Vanuatu Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan (VETSS) 2020-2030, developed with LEG engagement, and hopes for this inclusive approach to continue as part of the LEG dynamics and in the Joint Sector Review as part of VETSS monitoring.</p> <p>The Secretariat is also aware of the complementarity of the three GPE grants in the country. It is pleased to see the coordination and alignment across these grants and among other government and donor programs in the pursuit of aid effectiveness and strategic use of funds.</p> <p>The program makes significant investments in teacher development and inclusive education through support from Short and Long-Term Technical Advisors and program management through the Program Support Unit. The Secretariat positively recognizes the program approach to capacity building and skills transfer and looks forward to program reporting on capacity building in these areas.</p> <p>The Secretariat commends the Government for its commitment to absorb the costs related to the Inclusive Education Resource Center and the staffing of the Inclusive Education Unit. Similarly, it is notable that the program has a strong focus on children with disabilities with investments to improve data collection and meet their special education needs. To sustain these interventions, it will be relevant to integrate this data into annual monitoring mechanisms and ensure ongoing efforts (including financial commitments) are continued to integrate all children with disabilities into school.</p> <p>Given the program’s ambition which tries to achieve the intended program objectives within a relatively short period (33 months), the Secretariat encourages a rapid roll out of preparation activities to start the program implementation as planned.</p> <p>Given the commitment of the MoET to continue improving UNESO Institute of Statistics (UIS) data submission and that the latest year of reported UIS data was in 2015, the Secretariat will monitor progress made for UIS data submission.</p>
<p>Report Back</p>	<p><i>For the Local Education Group, through the Coordinating Agency:</i></p> <p>Noting the importance of sustainability of the program’s investments and of the new Inclusive Education Resource Center, the Secretariat would like to request an annual report back by the LEG, through the Coordinating Agency, on the national budget for education, particularly towards inclusive education.</p>