

# MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

## FINAL DECISIONS

Reference	Decisions
<b>BOD/2020/11/12-01</b>	<p><b>Financing Conference Budget</b></p> <p>The Board of Directors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Notes the intention of the GPE Secretariat to reallocate anticipated FY21 (July 2020 – June 2021) budget savings towards the costs of the Financing Conference and authorizes the carryover of such funds to FY22 (July 2021-June 2022).</li><li>2. In the event that the Secretariat determines there may be insufficient funds available, delegates authority to the Finance and Risk Committee (FRC) to approve up to US\$1.5 million in incremental funds for the Financing Conference.</li></ol>
<b>BOD/2020/11/12-02</b>	<p><b>GPE Priorities for CEO Feedback</b></p> <p>The Board of Directors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Noting that the CEO search process and the finalization of the strategic plan impacted the Board-approved CEO Performance Feedback process for the period of June 2019-June 2020, as enshrined in <a href="#">BOD/2017/06-07</a>;</li><li>2. Recognizing the need for an interim assessment and setting of priorities until the next assessment cycle is initiated in accordance with regular schedule;</li></ol>

	<p>3. Endorses the proposed GPE Priorities set out in Annex 2 as the basis for the CEO feedback process for the period from December 2020 to June 2021 and requests the Secretariat to launch the assessment.</p>
<p><b>BOD/2020/11/12-03</b></p>	<p><b>Operating Model:</b></p> <p>The Board of Directors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approves the GPE 2025 operating model framework as set out in BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 05, including the decision-making process to determine final allocation amounts and subsequent grant approvals with the explicit knowledge that the relevant delegations will be handled through the governance review which will be concluded by March.</li> <li>2. Recognizing that the pilots offer a significant opportunity for learning and adaptation, the Secretariat should provide a rollout plan including opportunities for committee engagement to the Coordinating Committee for review at their January 2021 meeting. Requests the Secretariat, in consultation with the relevant Board committees and partners, to pilot and operationalize the following aspects of the proposed model, emphasizing the need to embed the Effective Partnership Rollout principles in operationalization: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Partnership Compact as set out in Annex 1 to BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 05. In humanitarian crisis contexts, foster coordination and alignment between the LEG and humanitarian planning and coordination mechanisms through the Compact and its implementation.</li> <li>b. The System Capacity Grant as set out in Annex 2 to BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 05.</li> <li>c. The System Transformation Grant and approach to operating model requirements and incentives as set out in Annex 3 to BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 05, with the understanding that the variable part should be at least 30%. Depending on country capacity and appetite for results-based funding, as determined at the country-level, governments can opt, in consultation with the LEG, to increase the share of the variable part.</li> <li>d. The Secretariat to develop (a) criteria for exemptions from the variable part in very low-capacity and fragile contexts and b) detailed criteria and methodology for assessing requirements, to be peer reviewed by experts.</li> <li>e. The requirements should maintain a clear commitment to progressively meet the allocation of at least 20 percent of their national budget to education and the implementation of a credible</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

education plan, developed through an inclusive and participatory process in the local education group.

- f. Acknowledging the importance of human rights, the Board affirms the Coordinating Committee's decision to request that the Secretariat seek expertise within the partnership as well as outside in 2021 to review ways to strengthen human rights principles in GPE operations and report back to the Board.
  - g. The Independent Technical Advisory Panel to assess operating model requirements, with a full proposal for the Independent Technical Advisory Panel and its terms of reference to be presented for Board decision in February 2021.
3. Approves the countries, and the corresponding indicative allocations, proposed for the pilot of the GPE 2025 operating model starting in January 2021, as set out in Annex 7 to BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 05. Requests the Secretariat to update the Board on lessons learned and proposed adaptations from initial experience in implementing the operating model in June 2021.
4. To galvanize global, regional and national capabilities and resources needed to support the achievement of country reform priorities, the Board agrees to mobilize strategic capabilities to address key constraints to transformational change as described in Annex 4 to BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 05. Specifically, the Board:
- a. Approves an initial allocation not to exceed US\$2 million to commence implementation of the approach to mobilizing strategic capabilities, in consultation with relevant Board committees and partners. Requests for additional funds will be considered by the Board based on an analysis of needs and initial implementation progress.
  - b. Delegates authority to the CEO to approve such funds to applicable organizations in the form of grants from the GPE Fund or as Secretariat Administered Operating Expenses based on its assessment of the most efficient modality, provided they have been selected as part of an open and transparent process.
  - c. Requests the Secretariat to report to the Grants and Performance Committee semi-annually on any arrangements that have been entered into to facilitate oversight and to include reporting on financed strategic partnerships in annual reporting on grants to the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors:

1. Approves eligibility for GPE Funding for the 2021–2025 Financing period as set out in Table 1 of BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 06 noting that while additional countries may become eligible based on updated data as of 1 July 2021, no countries will be removed from eligibility as a result of this data.
2. Approves the following needs-based allocation formula
  - Needs Index =  $\text{PrimAgePop} \times (1 - \text{PCR} \times \text{HLS625}) + \text{SecAgePop} \times (1 - \text{LSCR})$   
GDP per Capita(PPP)-----√+15% FCAC adjustment
  - As further described in Annex 1 of BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 06 for calculating the share of available resources that countries eligible to receive a Systems Transformation Grant may apply for, subject to the following adjustments:
    - a. The maximum allocation for any one country shall not exceed 5% of the overall available resources used to calculate each indicative allocation.
    - b. For any eligible country where the allocation formula produces an indicative allocation below the allocation floors for country categories set out in Table 2 of BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 06 Annex 1, they shall be eligible to apply for the corresponding floor.
    - c. For any country that would see a reduction in their allocation compared to their original allocation as calculated in 2017 for the 2018–2020 period, that reduction shall be limited to 25% of the previous maximum country allocation.
3. Approves the use of Harmonized Learning Score as a temporary solution to make the case for learning outcomes as a determinant of resource allocation. However, expresses its desire for future allocation formulas to use SDG indicator 4.1.1 and to this effect, calls on all partners to commit to fill data gaps through coordinated action towards a coherent support mechanism to learning assessments.
4. Approves the allocation criteria and ceilings for the Multiplier as set out in BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 06 Annex 2 including the reduced co-financing threshold of US\$1 to US\$1 applying to additional grant funding from the business community and private foundations.
5. Approves eligibility for the System Capacity Grants as set out in BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 06 Annex 3, with maximum allocations ranging between US\$1 million to US\$5 million for country categories. Delegates authority to the Secretariat to approve such grants. Delegates authority

	<p>to the FRC to approve the limited criteria in which allocations above the ceilings may be acceptable.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Recognizing that the outcome of the 2021 Financing Conference will be the key determinant in forecasting available funds for allocation, the Board’s intention to make up to 20% of grant funds available for the Multiplier and related approaches, and considering that funds need to be reserved for future decisions on allocations the Board may make to support the enabling objective of GPE 2025, requests the Secretariat to develop prioritization criteria for FRC review and recommendation to the Board in the event that available resources for Systems Transformation Grants are forecasted to be less than US\$2 billion.</li> <li>7. During the piloting and implementing stages, the secretariat will develop a tracking and response mechanism to safeguard against reductions of the overall proportion of the financing to low income countries.</li> </ol>
<p><b>BOD/2020/11/12-05</b></p>	<p><b>Thematic Funding Window for Gender with a focus on Girls’ Education</b></p> <p>The Board of Directors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Instructs GPE Secretariat to hardwire gender equality throughout GPEs model and operations. Subject to securing sufficient funding, instructs GPE to create a thematic funding window for gender equality, including girls’ education. The said window will be used as an incentive to hardwire priorities. The implementation of the thematic window will be monitored closely, and evaluated to ensure it is achieving its purpose, there are no unintended consequences, and it does not become a separate ‘gender equality component’</li> <li>2. Subject to securing at least US\$100 million in new resources, approves the creation of a thematic funding window for gender equality with a focus on Girls’ education as set out in BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 07.</li> <li>3. Sets an initial funding target of US\$250 million for the window and authorizes the window as eligible to be fully financed with targeted contributions per the Contributions and Safeguards Policy (CSP).</li> <li>4. Permits donors to target up to 50% of their pledge or US\$50 million whichever is higher until such time as the target is reached and subject to compliance with the CSP.</li> <li>5. Eligibility for funding from the window shall be based on the “Balanced Approach” set out in BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 07.</li> <li>6. The approval of this window should not be considered as a precedent for the creation of similar thematic targeted windows.</li> </ol>

<p><b>BOD/2020/11/12-06</b></p>	<p><b>Innovative Finance</b></p> <p>The Board of Directors, considering that GPE should focus on the most promising tools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approves the approach to facilitate debt forgiveness for education as set out in Annex 1 of BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 08</li> <li>2. Approves the approach to matching funds for the Multiplier and Gender Education Window to incentivize contributions from the business community and private foundations as set out in Annex 2 of BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 08.</li> <li>3. Notes the potential interest for enhanced convening as set out in Annex 3 of BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 08 and requests the Secretariat to outline the necessary resources to pilot the initiative in up to 3 countries in FY22 (July 1 2021 – June 30 2022)</li> <li>4. Notes the potential for frontloading Multiplier resources and authorizes the Secretariat to develop the proposed operational details in accordance with the parameters set out in Annex 4 of BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 08 for consideration by the Finance and Risk Committee and recommendation to the Board in 2021.</li> <li>5. Notes that GPE funds could be used as part of an impact bond modality as described in Annex 5 of BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 08 provided such arrangements would fully comply with the GPE operating model and all applicable and proposed safeguards. Encourages the Secretariat to identify demand from eligible Developing Country Partners in order to present operational details for consideration by the Finance and Risk Committee and recommendation to the Board in FY22.</li> </ol>
<p><b>BOD/2020/11/12-07</b></p>	<p><b>Contributions and Safeguards Policy</b></p> <p>The Board of Directors:</p> <p>Approves the relevant changes proposed in Annex 1 of BOD/2020/11/12-09 to the Contributions and Safeguards Policy and requests the Secretariat to update the provisions of the policy and assessment template accordingly.</p>
<p><b>BOD/2020/11/12-08</b></p>	<p><b>Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework:</b></p> <p>Based on the approval of the strategic plan included in Annex 1 of BOD/2020/09 DOC 03 and in order to support GPE’s strategic direction of becoming a learning partnership, the Board approves the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework and requests the Secretariat to begin the work outlined in section 7 of BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 10.</p>

<b>BOD/2020/11/12-09</b>	<b>Strategic Plan</b>  The Board of Directors:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Approves the GPE 2025 strategic plan as set out in BOD/2020/11/12 DOC 11</li><li>2. Requests the Chair and CEO to finalize the strategy narrative informed by the feedback received and decisions made at the November 30 – December 3, 2020 Board meeting.</li></ol>
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