

# EDUCATION DATA LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

## Opportunities for Business Impact

Strong data systems are pivotal for developing stronger education systems. They are also critically important for measuring progress toward SDG4. But most lower-income countries lack sufficient data capabilities. The Education Data Leadership Program (EDLP) responds to national data capacity challenges by creating pathways for ministries of education to access in-kind expertise and tools from data-savvy companies and private foundations.

The potential for impact of 21st-century data capabilities is high – and the time is now. GPE's developing country partners are focused on making transformational change across their entire national education systems. Good data to guide strategy and decision making can make a fundamental difference in how quickly and effectively those transformations happen. That directly affects the lives and futures of girls and boys and, in turn, the strength and resilience of economies and societies. There are 76 lower-income countries in the GPE partnership, which receive support from GPE on developing and implementing national education strategies.

As part of its mandate to support transformation of education systems, GPE has made the development of stronger data capabilities a top priority.



Students read a supplementary reading book during class at the Kivukoni Primary School, Tanzania. Credit: GPE/Kelley Lynch

## PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Through the EDLP, GPE will support the delivery of data expertise and knowledge to ministries of education. This will happen through the creation of a consortium of companies and foundations that will make complementary in-kind contributions of such expertise and provide other forms of support.

The GPE Secretariat's role is to identify business partners that have in-demand strategic capabilities, then facilitate their work with countries that request assistance. Participating companies and foundations will have opportunities to engage in various ways – from sharing know-how at a high level to helping design and deliver curriculum for virtual and in-person training programs.

The first initiative of the EDLP will be a series of Data Leadership Bootcamps for ministry of education data teams. The Bootcamps and related consultations with ministries as well as companies, foundations and other partner organizations, are expected to yield insights that will shape additional EDLP initiatives in the future.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO TAKE ACTION

### Data Leadership Bootcamps

Data Leadership Bootcamps for ministry of education data teams—professional development sessions that will elevate skills and produce data leaders—will enlist companies to help assess needs, advise on or develop curriculum and/or teach and coach participants.

The Bootcamps aim to develop a generation of high-performing education data scientists in GPE partner countries.

Bootcamps are tailored to individual situations in each country and crafted in consultation with ministries.

There are four key ways for companies and foundations to participate, depending on individual organizations' expertise, capacity and interests, including:

- **Join the Data Expert Group:** Working with ministries, the GPE Secretariat and other partner organizations, help define the agenda for the Bootcamps, and share your organization's experience with data-related training.
- **Contribute to curriculum development:** Apply your team's expertise to creating training modules; different organizations may bring different elements of the curriculum—such as data collection, analysis and visualization.

- **Teach and coach:** Lend data experts from your organization to teach in a Bootcamp and to coach program participants.
- **Contribute to knowledge products:** Share lessons learned, expertise and other information to inform content of knowledge products that can be used to shape future Bootcamps and to be shared globally.

Bootcamp content will be driven by individual ministry needs. A preliminary assessment suggests the following topics are generally in demand:

- Data collection instruments and methodologies
- Standard protocol or method of data recording (e.g., ID systems)
- Basic IT skills, including hardware and software (e.g., spreadsheets, databases, presentations)
- Data reporting (e.g., data visualization)
- Data analytics (e.g., estimation and imputation skills)
- Emerging data skills (e.g., cloud computing)
- Other related issues such as cybersecurity and privacy

## BENEFITS TO PARTICIPATING COMPANY AND FOUNDATION PARTNERS



### IMPACT

Compound the return on your CSR investment through collaboration and coordination with business partners, and through alignment with countries' game-changing priorities.



### LEARNINGS

Gain first-hand insights on the data challenges and opportunities in participating countries, and keep current on trends and needs inside ministries of education.



### VISIBILITY

Be recognized as a key partner in a program making significant impact on SDG4—with visibility in collaterals, knowledge products, media outreach and in communications throughout the GPE network.



### PARTNERSHIPS

Develop relationships with likeminded companies and foundations and learn from each other.



### EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

Provide meaningful opportunities for your employees to engage on an important social mission.



Members gather for a meeting of the Education Data Solutions Roundtable in Washington DC on April 10, 2019. Credit: GPE/Chantal Rigaud

## BACKGROUND

The EDLP grows out of the GPE-convened Education Data Solutions Roundtable (DRT). The DRT brought together several lower-income country governments with companies, foundations and major development-related organizations. Together they identified priorities for action to improve education ministries' data capabilities – and ways in which the business community and private foundations could help.

## ABOUT GPE

GPE is a shared commitment to ending the world's learning crisis. We mobilize partners and funds to support 76 lower-income countries to transform their education systems so that every girl and boy can get the quality education they need to unlock their full potential and contribute to building a better world. GPE is currently calling on world leaders to "Raise Your Hand" and pledge at least \$5 billion for the next five years to help GPE transform education in up to 90 countries and territories, which are home to more than 1 billion children.

# BECOME PART OF THE EDLP

Business organizations and private foundations interested in joining with the EDLP are invited to inquire. Please contact:

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Two years ago Barsha and Chandni, like many Dalit girls in their community, were not in school. Nepal. Credit: GPE/Kelley Lynch

