

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 % <i>(please specify)</i>
Description of education budget perimeter				
<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>				
The Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) responsible for elements included in the calculation of education expenditures: Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (MBSSE), Ministry of Higher and Technical Education (MTHE), Teaching Service Commission (TSC), Tertiary Education Institutions and specific components of health education.				
Key elements in the national budget:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wages and Salaries ▪ Non-Salary , Non Interest , Recurrent Expenditure ▪ Domestic Capital 				
Education Sector Programmes (of which)				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Salaries for Teachers ▪ Salaries for Teaching Service Commission Staff 				

- Salaries for Tertiary Education Institutions
- Recurrent Expenditure for Basic Education
- Recurrent Expenditure for Technical and Higher Education
- Grants for Devolved Education Services for Local Councils
- Recurrent Expenditure for Teaching Service Commission
- Recurrent Expenditure for Teaching Hospital Complex
- Domestic Capital Budget Allocation to Education

Historical and projected expenditures (%)

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).

2019 Leones (millions)	2020 Leones (millions)	2021 Leones (millions)	2022 Leones (millions)	2023 Leones (millions)	2024	2025
1,308,480 (actual)	1,683,931 (actual)	1,557,718 (budget)	1,694,687 (indicative)	2,004,800 (indicative)		
19%*	20%*	22%*	22%*	24%*	N/A	N/A

Rationale (optional): The Government of Sierra Leone has prioritised human capital development in its Medium Term National Development Plan 2019–2023 with the Free Quality School Education Programme (FQSE) being its flagship. In line with several internationally recommended benchmarks, the Government has committed to investing not less than 20% of the national budget to the education sector. Current commitments are reported up to 2023 in line with the country's Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). The next set of medium term estimates, up to 2024, will be announced in November 2021 as per the national budget calendar.

***Education Expenditure as a share of Total Government Budget (excl. Debt Servicing)**

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.

- Whole- of- Government approach to Human Capital Development (HCD) as articulated in the National Development Plan called, 'Education for Development'
- His Excellency, the President's Priority HCD Portfolio with clear literacy and numeracy targets and cross cutting deliverables for education addressing nutrition, teenage pregnancy and digital identity
- Provisions in the national budget, legislated in the Appropriation Act for education sector spending and education outcomes enablers through overlaps with other sectors such as water for WASH in schools; health for school clinics
- Maintaining priority education expenditures during challenging periods (e.g COVID-19)
- Free Quality School Education Programme, the Government's flagship through which tuition fees , teaching and learning materials are provided for all pupils in Government owned and Government-assisted schools
- National Education Policy
- MBSSE Policy: Transforming Education Service Delivery through Evidence-Informed Policy and Practice such as Education sector Plan, school catchment area and rationalization plan and formula-based funding etc.
- School Infrastructure and Catchment Area Planning Policy: Physical improvements to learning environment through construction of new schools and maintenance and renovation of existing schools
- National Radical Inclusion Policy supporting gender and disability inclusiveness
- National School Feeding Policy with linkages to nutrition and agriculture
- Early Childhood Development Policy
- Semi-autonomous Teaching Service Commission focused on teacher management and professional development
- Partnership with the Directorate of Science Technology and Innovation (DSTI) to leverage data, technology and innovation for seeding, testing, piloting and rollout innovative tools and solutions for enhanced education service delivery
- Inter-Ministerial Committee
- Annual bilateral budget discussions with the Ministry of Finance
- Focal Persons and Economists from the Ministry of Finance dedicated to the education sector.

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 entire Cabinet of Ministers, the Legislative and Development Partners following a nationwide consultative process endorsed the Medium Term National Development Plan (2019-2023).
- Following a consultative process, budgetary allocations are approved by the Cabinet and House of Parliament and legislated annually in the Appropriation Act.
- Both the Cabinet and House of Parliament approve Sierra Leone's adoption of any international protocol.
- All adopted policies are the product of consultative processes covering government, civil society, the private sector, academic, development partners and the wider citizenry.