Supporting countries affected by fragility and conflict

Almost half of GPE partner countries are affected by conflict and fragility. GPE helps them strengthen and rebuild their education systems during and after a crisis so children’s education is not interrupted.

GPE results

With GPE’s support, partner countries affected by fragility and conflict have made remarkable progress under challenging circumstances:

- **70%** of children completed primary school in partner countries affected by fragility and conflict in 2016 compared to 56% in 2000.
- **US$55 million** in accelerated financing allocated by GPE to ensure education continues during crisis in Bangladesh, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Somalia (Federal Government and Somaliland), South Sudan and Yemen.
- **60%** of GPE funding supports children’s education in countries affected by fragility and conflict.

The challenge

- **104 million children aged 5 to 17** are deprived of education due to conflict or disaster.
- Children in countries affected by fragility and conflict are more than twice as likely to be out of school compared with those in countries not affected by conflict; adolescents are two-thirds more likely to be out of school.
- In 2016, education in emergencies received 2.7% of humanitarian aid, well below the target of 4%.
- From 2013 through 2017, there were more than 12,700 attacks on education, harming more than 21,000 students and educators.
Education can prevent conflicts

- Each year of education reduces the risk of conflict by around 20%.
- People with a secondary education show more tolerance than those with just a primary education toward immigrants and people of a different religion or race.
- Rebuilding education systems after war can restore hope and rebuild trust and accountability with governments.

GPE approach

- Transitional education planning maps out a coordinated approach among development and humanitarian partners as a country emerges from a crisis.
- Flexible and accelerated funding provides rapid support to countries in urgent need to ensure that children’s schooling continues during crisis.
  
  GPE disburse accelerated funding within eight weeks for critical interventions such as temporary shelters, classroom construction, school meals, school supplies, teacher payments and school grants.

  GPE allocates 60% of its funding to partner countries affected by fragility and conflict, an evidence of the priority it places on supporting the children most in need.

  GPE grants are flexible and can be adjusted to allow countries to shift easily from emergency mode to long-term development.

- Helping countries prepare for emergencies during long-term education planning. This includes provisions for keeping children in school even during an emergency.

- Working with partners. GPE works with Education Cannot Wait, UNHCR and other partners to ensure that education support during crisis is complementary. GPE is also facilitating dialogue among development and humanitarian actors in many countries such as Bangladesh, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen to improve linkages and joint planning between humanitarian and long-term development efforts and to avoid fragmentation of education planning and financing.

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