UNESCO’s pledge in support of the 2nd GPE Replenishment Conference
Delivered by Qian Tang, Assistant Director-General for Education

UNESCO pledges our full support to this replenishment drive. We believe that a successful replenishment will help lay solid foundations for delivering a bold new education agenda.

UNESCO is outspoken in our advocacy for greater investment in education by governments and their development partners. Through our coordination of the EFA movement, we are responsible for holding the international community to account for its education commitments – including the pledge that no country committed to education will be thwarted in its efforts for want of resources. Our EFA Global Monitoring Report tracks progress to meet this promise, and through our support to global campaigns – including the UN Secretary-General’s Global Education First Initiative – we sound the alarm bell when funding falls short. We will continue this advocacy and monitoring, and also work to facilitate consensus on a new financing compact for education beyond 2015.

GPE has rightly put investment in better data at the centre of this replenishment campaign. UNESCO has been and will continue to remain at the forefront of efforts to enhance country capacities to collect, analyse and use data. This is essential for sound education planning and the strategic deployment of resources. UNESCO has rich experience in these areas, in particular through our specialized institutes for statistics – UIS – and planning – IIEP. Over the next four years, we pledge to:

- train annually at least 600 planners and policy analysts and 100 statisticians;
- support ministries in conducting education sector analyses, in integrating conflict and disaster risk reduction into their planning and monitoring, and in strengthening reporting on financing flows;
- work with countries to strengthen their capacity to report cross-nationally comparable data; and
- spearhead efforts to develop indicators to monitor education quality, equity and learning – key priorities for post-2015.

Through these services UNESCO offers global public goods that benefit all GPE partners.