Global and Regional Activities (GRA) Program

Meeting of the Board of the Directors
Brussels, Belgium, 21-22 May 2013
For Information and Decision

- Outline decision proposed for 2nd batch of GRA concept notes
- Update on first round of GRA concept notes
- Brief outline of next steps in 2013
Decision differs from background paper

- So: explain
- Approx $30 million committed in batch 1 (including CSEF) and not yet running
- Notes for 2\textsuperscript{nd} batch: another $40 million
- So: pause and moderate
- Initial reactions: even 5 notes too much in 2\textsuperscript{nd} batch
- So, decision proposed is...
  - 2 notes
  - with options: 1) the 5 in the paper, or 2) none
- In all cases propose GRA → innovation fund/facility
Proposed decision: (BOD/2013/05) on 2nd batch of GRA Concept Notes

a. approves an allocation of up to US$ 10,489,925 from the Global Partnership for Education Fund to fund the Global and Regional Activities ("GRA") concept notes three and four, as designated in the “Summary and Decision Matrix of GRA Concept Notes”, Annex 1 of the Secretariat’s Recommendations for GRA (BOD/2013/05 DOC 10);

b. requests the Secretariat to prepare a proposal for an Innovation Fund or facility, to replace the GRA, and to be decided upon in November 2013.
What is GRA?

• Fill knowledge gaps in meeting GPE Strategic goals and objectives

• Knowledge sharing and knowledge development
  – by Partners
  – at regional and global levels

• Funded through the GPE fund
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Summary Previous GRA Board Decisions

**BOD/2012/10-02**
- Approval of GRA Operational Manual
- Open call for GRA concept notes
- Approved proceeding with 1st batch of GRA concept notes

**BOD/2013/02-02**
- Approval of Funding 1st batch of GRA Concept Notes
- Approved proceeding with 2nd batch of GRA concept notes for submission at Board meeting in May
Status GRA Concept Notes 1st Batch

- **February:** Eight concept notes approved by the Board for US$ 13,515,285
- **March:** Detailed proposals submitted to Secretariat
- **April:** External and internal quality reviews on detailed proposals coordinated by Secretariat
- **May:** Final comments shared with agencies and results agreements finalized
- **June:** Transfer of funds by Trustee and implementation starts
Actions taken for 2\textsuperscript{nd} batch based on Board Recommendations

- Emphasize all GPE Strategic Goals and Objectives
- Emphasize outreach and capacity building
- Coordinate amongst partners
- Ensure dissemination plan for knowledge products
- Value for money
Details on Proposed Board Decision

• Board paper recommended top 5 out of 18
• But if Board wishes to be more selective, proposals 3 and 4 are quite distinctive and also important:
  – Proposal 3 (Pacific): promise of using GRA for small island states, as a group, otherwise without normal grants; important SO (learning)
  – Proposal 4 (Teachers): only one directly and in a focused manner dealing with teacher SO
• GRA→innovation fund/facility
## Overview of recommended Concept Notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Idea/ Knowledge Product</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Grant US$</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Pacific Early Age Readiness and Learning Program PEARL</td>
<td>World Bank</td>
<td>Managing Entity</td>
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<td>Quality/Learning Outcomes</td>
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<td>Delivering on Teachers</td>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>Managing Entity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>10,489,925</td>
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</table>
• Purpose: stimulate game-changing innovation beyond business as usual
• Components: “Real” ($ in, $ out) and “virtual” (stimulate and “vet” non-cash collaborations)
• Give non-cash collabs same status as cash ones
• Stimulate philanthropic/private sectors, CSOs, to get more involved
Source innovations from countries
  – Create community of ideas amongst countries

Technological and process innovation
  – Not just a “gadgets” fund

Management/policy and teaching/learning

Quantify and measure outputs generated by having good classification and scoring scheme

Examples?
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