OVERVIEW

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) brings together developing countries, donors, international organizations, civil society, teacher organizations, foundations and the private sector.

The partnership, set up in 2002, strengthens education systems in developing countries to increase the number of children who are in school and learning. GPE’s replenishment marks the beginning of a new era in education financing to reverse the trend of declining aid for education. To this end, GPE recognizes that the business community has the specialized expertise, resources and networks to tackle some of the most urgent problems facing education systems in developing countries. The business community will be increasingly needed for its insights on how education systems can meet the needs of rapidly evolving labor markets.

GPE’S RESULTS

GPE has supported successful national education efforts to provide quality education and learning for children across our partner countries. By doing this, GPE’s work directly contributes to country efforts for skilled and educated workers and consumers.

The achievements in GPE’s partner countries since the partnership was founded in 2002 include:

- **72 MILLION** more children in primary school in 2015 compared with 2002
- **76%** of children completed primary school in 2015 compared with 63% in 2002
- **74%** primary school completion rate for girls in 2015 compared with 57% in 2002
- **48%** lower-secondary school completion rate for girls compared with 35% in 2002
GPE’S REPLENISHMENT

- GPE’s five-year strategic plan, which is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goal on education, has three main targets: improving learning; increasing equity, inclusion and gender equality; and building effective and efficient education systems.

- To achieve these goals, GPE is working with its partners in the private sector—and seeking new partners—to replenish its resources. GPE aims to raise US$2 billion in annual funding by 2020 to ensure quality and equitable education for an additional 25.6 million children of primary and lower-secondary school age.

- The replenishment offers new opportunities for GPE’s partners in the business community to target thematic and geographic priorities. It will enable them to leverage the impact of investments in education made by donors, promote the exchange of knowledge and innovation to strengthen education systems and harness the power of business as advocates for education in developing countries.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH GPE

Since its inception, GPE has sought close collaboration with the private sector in a partnership that draws on both the philanthropic contribution and the capabilities that the private sector can bring to achieving a quality education for all in developing countries. For the replenishment, this community is invited to collaborate with GPE in the following areas:

**Strengthening data and information management systems**

The quality, timeliness, availability and use of data to inform education planning and policies are a challenge across GPE’s partner countries. This is caused by limitations in technical knowledge and lack of capacity in data collection and information management systems. Business partners can contribute to strengthening these systems with know-how and skills transfers. They can help build capacity to support governments and international agencies involved in strengthening the collection and analysis of education data.

**Disaster risk financing in education**

Education systems are vulnerable to disasters. GPE is exploring a strategy to embed education in disaster risk planning processes to promote resilience and to ensure that predictable funding is available and can be rapidly mobilized when disasters strike. The insurance sector is a key contributor to this discussion, both through its core products and its contribution to expanding services to reach vulnerable populations in resource deficient settings. As GPE articulates this strategy, we look forward to working closely with the business community to understand the core skills and expertise that it could bring to build robust education systems, to evaluate risks ranging from earthquakes to tropical storms, and to contribute to GPE’s larger mission to deliver education access, efficiency and equity in the world’s poorest countries.

**Collaboration and expertise**

The private sector is encouraged to showcase its corporate social responsibility by joining GPE. By sponsoring various elements of the replenishment, corporations will increase the visibility of their social responsibility work and contribute to GPE’s goal of securing a quality education for millions of children.

"At Bosch, all our innovation and creativity come from educated people. The development of education in the Global South is key for economies to grow and to improve the quality of life. This is why I encourage wider private sector engagement for education for development. GPE, I believe, provides an excellent opportunity for systematic support of education, for governments as for other stakeholders."

Dr. Christof Bosch, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Robert Bosch Foundation

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