Effective Partnership Rollout

GPE Board Pre-Meeting
Stockholm, June 11, 2019
What is the Effective Partnership Rollout?

A suite of recommendations and decisions aiming to achieve significant improvements in the GPE country level model, including:

- Strengthened mutual accountability and government ownership
- A major rebalancing and strengthening of the partnership
- An ambition that all transactions add value in meeting the strategic goals and objectives of GPE
- Outcomes that are meaningful, implementable and will have impact
KEY QUESTIONS

1. Does EPR deliver on GPE Board Requests?
2. What are the problems EPR is seeking to address?
3. How does EPR solve these problems?
4. What are EPR’s implications for the Strategic Plan?
5. What happens next?
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Examination of efficiency & effectiveness of GAs, CAs, and LEGs to deliver on GPE 2020

Strengthen mutual accountability .. review & clarify roles, responsibilities, authorities, accountabilities, resourcing and risks at country level...

...outline the extent to which accountability, authorities, and risks are clearly assigned

... ensure implementation of key improvements to country-level operations are rolled out from July 1, 2019
December 2018 Board Decision: EPR Principles

- Increase **decentralized** mutual accountability
- Drive national government **ownership** and strengthen its capacity
- **Rebalance** the country-level model
- **Reduce** GPE processes and transaction costs
4 working groups: GPC members, country level resource persons & Secretariat staff:

- Assess options proposed in December 2018 EPR Board paper
- Grant Agent workshop, March 2019
- Decisions defined at three levels:
  1. immediate adjustments
  2. pilots
  3. recommendations for the next strategic planning process
- Secretariat role and reducing transaction costs as cross-cutting themes
Overview of GPC Decisions and Recommendations

Decisions agreed at GPC meeting on April 9-11 and May 22\textsuperscript{nd} fall into three categories:

1. Strengthening Country Level Partnership and Government Ownership
2. Strengthening the use of GPE funding while reducing transaction costs
3. Clarifying and strengthening roles, responsibilities, accountabilities, risk ownership and resourcing

GPC has conducted a robust review of all 17 of the December EPR recommendations:

- 8 adopted
- 2 recommended for piloting with major revisions
- 4 considerably amended/improved
- 3 not fit for purpose
## Overview of GPC Decisions and Recommendations

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<th>GPC</th>
<th>Board decision</th>
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<td>Mutual Accountability</td>
<td>Agreement, in principle, to a diagnostic self-assessment mechanism: GPC to pilot</td>
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<td>Financing of the Coordination Role</td>
<td>Agreement to series of CA financing pilots,</td>
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<td>Joint Sector Reviews</td>
<td>Agreement that a new financing window in the ESPDS may be made available to support JIRs</td>
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<td>New Strategic Plan</td>
<td>Agree to reduce transaction costs by not requiring a 2-year costed implementation plan where an effective annual planning and budgeting cycle exists</td>
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<td>Sector Planning Efficiencies</td>
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<td>Grant Agent Selection</td>
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<td>Terms of Reference and GPE Charter</td>
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<td><strong>Immediate Decision</strong></td>
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<td>Decision to pilot</td>
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<td>Decision for strategic planning and governance review process (2020)</td>
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EPR identified needs

- Strengthened focus on ESP implementation, national ownership and capacity
- Improved focus on harmonized, inclusive policy dialogue around sector policy (not just GPE grants!)
- Reduced grant process transaction costs
- Improved clarity of roles, responsibilities, accountabilities, and decision making authority
- Strengthened mutual accountability for achieving SDG4
Country Evaluations

• GPE has helped to improve sector planning, but this is only the first step

• Sector dialogue has improved; weaknesses in monitoring and implementation

• ESPIGs generally well implemented and aligned with ESPs, though limited evidence of how they have contributed to ESP outcomes

• GPE Partnership is not fully in play at the country level
  ✓ Positive contributions from key GPE actors (GA/CA etc) ...
  ✓ But bilateral projects not aligned or on-Plan

• Room for greater flexibility of GPE approaches: ‘one size does not fit all’
Results Report

WHAT IS WORKING WELL

✓ Strong focus on learning in GPE grants
✓ Quality of learning assessment systems improving
✓ Strong support to fragile contexts
✓ Overall quality of education plans is improving
✓ Increased inclusiveness of LEGs

WHAT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

✓ Need to strengthen ESP implementation
✓ Weak monitoring of ESPs
✓ Need for more aligned, harmonized modalities to better support ESP implementation and systems strengthening
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1. Strengthen Country Level Partnership & Government Ownership

- Mutual accountability matrix to frame expectations
- Country specific partnership frameworks (MOUs, TORs, etc.)
- Piloting of LEG self-assessment tool
- Increasing the focus on ESP implementation, including through incentivizing Joint Sector Reviews
- Refocusing the Coordinating Agency role on harmonized policy dialogue – strengthening the role of government in GPE processes
- Piloting CA-role financial support (for CA and government)
2. Strengthen the use of GPE funding while reducing transaction costs

- Adapt/differentiate the **ESP funding model requirement** and revisit other elements of funding model based on lessons learned
- Adapt better to **functioning country level mechanisms** and leverage improvements where needed
- Revise GA selection process to set the focus on **strategic use of GPE resources**
- **Streamline and differentiate quality assurance** to focus on added value and reduce duplication
3. Clarifying and strengthening roles, responsibilities, accountabilities, risk ownership and resourcing

- **Terms of reference** for key roles shortened, sharpened and differentiated

- **Accountability matrix** to complement TORs: Partnership and grant accountabilities differentiated and agreed at global level

- Accountability matrix linked to the **Risk Framework**

- Some accountabilities require **adaptations to the Charter**

- **Grant monitoring accountabilities** clarified and strengthened

- More work with GPC on **grant accountability to the Board**
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For the Strategic Plan

- Fewer, better-targeted indicators for the new GPE Results Framework
- Funding model requirement improvements for greater differentiation, effectiveness and impact
- Building on lessons learned from variable tranche implementation and adapting as needed
- Outcomes of pilots to feed into planning process
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EPR Workplan

WORKSTREAM 1: CLARIFYING ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AUTHORITIES, ACCOUNTABILITIES, RESOURCING AND RISK AT COUNTRY LEVEL (completed)

WORKSTREAM 2: PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY (FY20)
✓ Major communications effort
✓ GPE’s goals, objectives, operational model and associated roles, responsibilities and accountabilities well understood by all partners
✓ Stakeholders effectively engaged to contribute to achieving impact through mutual accountability

WORKSTREAM 3: ACTIONS TO BE CARRIED OUT FOLLOWING BOARD JUNE 2019 DECISIONS (Overseen by GPC FY20)
How will we know if the Effective Partnership Rollout has succeeded?

• Will EPR strengthen decentralized mutual accountability?
• Will EPR Strengthen Government Ownership?
• Will EPR rebalance the country-level model?
• Will EPR Reduce Transaction Costs?
Thank You