GPE’s vision is Sustainable Development Goal 4: “To ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.”
The largest-ever global education financing event

The Global Partnership for Education Financing Conference was the world’s largest-ever education financing event – a demonstration of growing global political will to ensure every child is in school and learning.

The power of partnership was demonstrated by co-hosts President Sall and President Macron, and the presence of leadership from governments, private sector, civil society and international organizations.

A renewed commitment to more and better financing of education was reflected in pledges made for 2018–2020 totalling **US$110 BILLION** from over 50 developing country governments and **US$2.3 BILLION** from over 20 donor governments.

"We’re immensely grateful to everyone who helped make this event a success and the many others who over the last few years raised the profile of global education around the world."

ALICE ALBRIGHT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION
1,000+ participants
10 heads of state
100+ ministers

200+ journalists present
4,000+ articles published
80,000+ social media posts
President Macky Sall, whose country already commits more than 25 percent of its national budget to education, announced that Senegal would also become a donor to GPE, pledging US$2 million.
Education is fundamental

“We have a choice. We can stand back and watch as these countries, because of the unrest and unhappiness of young people, fall into fragility, conflict, violence, extremism and then of course migration. Or we can move at an unprecedented scale, with the Global Partnership for Education in the lead, and ensure every child everywhere can become whatever she dreams.”

JIM YONG KIM, PRESIDENT, WORLD BANK GROUP

“We will not stop fighting until every boy and every girl has access to education.”

RIHANNA, GPE’S GLOBAL AMBASSADOR

“We have within us our capacity to develop and promote the interests of our continent ourselves, let’s do it!”

PRESIDENT NANA AKUFO-ADDO OF GHANA

“The world was galvanized by the shooting of Malala and the kidnapping of the Chibok girls by Boko Haram. Their courage and determination to go to school, and the growing evidence about how much difference educating girls makes, undoubtedly helped mobilize the political will and resources that are so urgently needed.”

JULIA GILLARD, GPE BOARD CHAIR
Building a stronger partnership

Many partners have called on global leaders to substantially increase their support for education and the Global Partnership for Education.

“Our common challenges should be addressed together – demography, urban development, conflict, inequality, climate change – no agency, no country can meet these challenges alone – partnership is the only way.”
AUDREY AZOULAY, DIRECTOR-GENERAL, UNESCO

“Civil society has a particular role in ensuring scrutiny of education financing and we will remain vigilant.”
CAMILLA CROSO, PRESIDENT, GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR EDUCATION

“When you invest in girls and women, there is a ripple effect and everyone wins.”
KATJA IVERSEN, CEO, WOMEN DELIVER

“We have to build the voice and agency of millions of young girls so that they can drive their own transformation”
ANNE-BIRGITTE ALBRECTXEN, CEO, PLAN INTERNATIONAL

“The lack of quality education is the greatest threat to my generation. I am asking each of you in this room to do better. I’m not asking you to make the impossible possible, but to make the possible attainable.”
MOHAMED SIDIBAY, FORMER CHILD SOLDIER AND EDUCATION ACTIVIST, SIERRA LEONE
“We are dealing right now with the largest displacement crisis in history. We have to ensure that SDG 4 is fully implemented.”

KELLY CLEMENTS, DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER, UNHCR

“A boost in funding for GPE will give a huge boost to education systems the world over. If this is combined with increased investments from governments, the effects could be extraordinary.”

HELLE THORNING-SCHMIDT, CEO, SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL

“This financing conference marks a big step forward, with low-income and conflict-affected countries showing remarkable commitment to addressing the education crisis.”

JOANNE CARTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESULTS EDUCATIONAL FUND

“World leaders must understand that every year out of school is not only a wasted opportunity for a child, but also a loss for the world. Policy makers – please take a pause from the fires you are putting out today to prevent one tomorrow.”

GAYLE SMITH, PRESIDENT AND CEO, ONE

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“Today’s 1.2 billion adolescents are the largest cohort in history and they want meaning and purpose.”

HENRIETTA FORE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNICEF

“Unless we achieve breakthroughs in education, we will not achieve the rest of the sustainable development goals... Now is the chance for us to truly step up.”

HUGH EVANS, CO-FOUNDER AND CEO, GLOBAL CITIZEN
Youth activism

“Youth are not simply beneficiaries of education. We are partners in creating a better world. Youth do not need to be given a voice. We already have one.”

YOUTH SOLIDARITY STATEMENT, DAKAR

Private sector

“To improve education in partnership with GPE, the private sector can contribute so much more than financial support such as innovative solutions and creative thinking. This includes providing new technology, services, products and people driving improvements at community, regional, national and ultimately global levels.”

DAVID BOUTCHER, PARTNER AT REEDSMITH AND GPE PRIVATE SECTOR BOARD MEMBER

Private foundations

“The drive and initiative of foundations, coupled with a heightened awareness from GPE around the potential of partnership with private philanthropy, has opened new doors for collective impact in global education. This is a compelling mutual value proposition for creating global education philanthropic partnerships.”

DR. RANDA GROB-ZAKHARY, SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE CEO AT PORTICUS AND GPE PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS BOARD MEMBER
Strong financial support

53 developing countries pledged to increase their national budgets for education to a total of US$110 BILLION in 2018-2020 up from US$80 billion over the previous three years.
The commitment of developing countries was met with solidarity and support from donors, who pledged **US$2.3 BILLION** for 2018–2020, a US$1 billion increase compared to the US$1.3 billion contributed in the previous three years.

- **France** increases its financing ten-fold, galvanizing its position as a new leading donor to GPE.
- **The United Arab Emirates** becomes the first Arab and Middle East donor to GPE with a US$100 million commitment.
- **Ireland** more than doubles its contribution to GPE.
- **Canada** doubles its commitment to GPE.
- **The United Kingdom** increases its contribution by 50 percent.
- **The Netherlands and Spain** announce their return as GPE donors.
- **Norway, Denmark and Sweden** significantly increases their contributions.

**Credit:** Raul Hee
Australia
“We know that a quality education is indispensable to reduce poverty.”
BRENDAN BERNE, AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE

North Macedonia
“North Macedonia is committed to implementing the recommendations of the Global Partnership for Education and working towards achieving the SDGs.”
RIZCO KALLO, AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL

Germany
“As a founding member of the Global Partnership for Education, we share a common objective with GPE and all partners to ensure inclusive and quality education for all.”
STEPHAN RÖKEN, AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL

Belgium
“Belgium believes that education is a major factor for development, whether for individuals or society as a whole.”
PHILIPPE COLYN, AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL

Italy
“Italy is strongly convinced that education is a real sustainable development multiplier for every society and every sector.”
LUCA MAESTRIPIERI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Japan
“Japan is strengthening its cooperation to meet the needs of marginalized populations that have no access to quality education.”
SHIGERU OMORI, AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL

United States of America
“We will continue our work with GPE to deliver results, to promote innovation, to improve learning outcomes and to reach the most marginalized, especially girls and children with disabilities.”
MICHELLE BEKKERING, SENIOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, USAID
Luxembourg
“We are meeting here to guarantee that every child receives what we owe him or her, access to quality education which is their basic right.”
NICOLE BINTNER-BAKSHIAN, AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL

Switzerland
“GPE represents a major player in ensuring coordination and non-fragmentation of support to education.”
THOMAS GASS, VICE DIRECTOR, SWISS AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION

Korea
“Education has been a key for the story of Korea’s development. We fully understand that no country can drive itself out of the poverty trap without inclusive and equitable education for all.”
JENNY HYO-EUN KIM, AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL

“Your work has set the tone for a pivotal year for investment in global education. It is encouraging that donor country pledges showed significant progress towards our shared goal of providing education to every child.”
MALALA YOUSAFZAI
With thanks to the sponsors and supporters that made the Global Partnership for Education Financing Conference a success.

The Global Partnership for Education is the only global fund solely dedicated to education in developing countries. GPE is a multi-stakeholder partnership and funding platform that strengthens education systems to dramatically increase the number of children who are in school and learning.

For details on pledges and commitments, please visit:
- www.globalpartnership.org/funding/replenishment/pledges
- www.globalpartnership.org
- @gpforeducation

Photo credit: GPE/Heather Shuker

Unless otherwise noted