Dear Dr. Subrata Dhar,

Rwanda DPs commitment to finance the endorsed Education Sector Strategic Plan

This letter serves to confirm Development Partners’ (DPs) commitment to contribute to the financing of the new Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP), which reflects the alignment of the Government of Rwanda and DPs’ priorities in the Rwandan education sector. Attached is the list of DPs who have endorsed this letter.

Rwanda has developed a new ESSP (2018/19 - 2022/23) through a very consultative process, led by MINEDUC, with support from a team of consultants. It involved stakeholders at central, provincial, and district levels and across other relevant Ministries, including the Ministry of Finance. The new ESSP builds on the various achievements in the sector attained in the past years, as highlighted in the Education Sector Analysis (ESA), while focusing on addressing the prevailing challenges.

An appraisal of the ESSP was also conducted, which found the ESSP to be a credible plan that addresses the key challenges in the education sector. The identified nine strategic priorities are well aligned to the challenges and cover the whole spectrum of the Education Sector - from preprimary, primary, secondary, TVET to higher education - while tackling issues of equity, efficiency, and learning. The ESSP has also informed the National Strategy for Transformation (NST1), hence providing a strong link to the overall country development strategy.

We note the financing gap currently estimated at 23% on the preferred ESSP scenario, as a risk to the full implementation of this ESSP. As DPs, we commit to contribute to the financing of the endorsed ESSP. DPs’ actual and projected funding commitments for those currently available have been provided and are reflected in the ESA and ESSP.

Despite DP and Government contributions to the ESSP, there remains a significant financial shortfall to implement the ESSP and ensure that targets for learning for all are reached. To that end, we request the GPE to consider Rwanda’s application for GPE funding for the August 2018 application window.

The GPE funds will add value to the implementation of the ESSP and attainment of set targets particularly in the basic education sector with overall effect on TVET and Higher Education.
Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Sarah Metcalf
Head of DFID Rwanda