1. INTRODUCTION

Papua New Guinea (PNG) and its Development Partners (DPs) have resolved to adopt a Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) under the framework of the Education Sector Improvement Programme (ESIP).

The ESIP aims to actualize effective and efficient education development in PNG by making efforts to increase aid coordination based on the leadership of the PNG government (GoPNG). The ESIP also applies a single programme and budget framework, and common approaches and procedures across the education sector. These are utilized for education planning, budgeting, implementing and monitoring and evaluation.

The committee to drive the ESIP is organized as the ESIP Steering Committee, alternatively named as the Local Education Group (LEG), which provides a forum for information exchange, coordination and collaboration between GoPNG and DPs in the education sector.

The LEG will provide advice and guidance to the Secretary of the Department of Education (DoE), GoPNG, provincial administrations, DPs and stakeholders involved in the education sector in PNG. The LEG will also be a forum where GoPNG, DPs and stakeholders come together to discuss education policy and financing issues, share information and analyze performance.

The LEG will be co-chaired by the Secretary of the DoE (representing GoPNG) and the coordinating agency of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) (representing DPs). The membership of the LEG is listed in the attachment in Annex A.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE LEG

The overall objective of the LEG is to contribute to the effective, efficient and coordinated implementation of national policies, strategies, plans and programmes in the education sector in PNG through joint results targets and a monitoring framework.

The followings are specific objectives.

- Promote harmonization and alignment of activities in the education sector.
- Exchange information among stakeholders with regard to the progress and constraints in the achievement of goals set by GoPNG in the education sector.
- Ensure accountability amongst stakeholders, including DPs, for their engagement within the sector.
- Facilitate a common understanding among stakeholders in the sector, as well as the integration of policies, approaches and efforts of the stakeholders. This would include an inventory of GoPNG’s and DPs’ activities in the sector which should be updated regularly.
- Disseminate best practices with demonstrable, measurable and effective impact.
3. TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEG

To achieve its objectives, the LEG will focus on the following tasks and responsibilities:

1) **Consensus-building on education priorities and plans**

   The LEG provides a forum for stakeholders of GoPNG, DPs and others to exchange information, as well as to discuss and build consensus on education priorities, in order to take action in line with national development priorities and international agendas such as sustainable development goals (SDGs). The LEG also maintains regular and updated inventories of GoPNG and DP activities in the education sector.

2) **Harmonization for aid effectiveness**

   The LEG promotes harmonization and alignment of activities as outlined in the PARIS declaration (and subsequent documents), as well as joint work/programmes in the education sector. The LEG also works to enhance aid effectiveness, avoid duplication and encourage complementarity in programming. Accordingly, the LEG will provide feedback to GoPNG and concerned agencies as deemed necessary.

3) **Support for development of the annual plan**

   Based on the National Education Plan (NEP), the LEG contributes to the development of a comprehensive annual strategic implementation plan, including verifiable performance indicators to measure achievement of the targets. The annual plan should also cover all significant funding that flows into the education sector, within the context of a rolling three-year Medium Term Expenditure Framework.

4) **Resource mobilization**

   The LEG facilitates GoPNG in accessing external funds such as GPE grants, in order to fill resource gaps in implementing the NEP.

5) **Monitoring**

   The LEG through existing monitoring mechanism monitors education results indicators, identifies risks and ensures the effective and efficient implementation of intended activities.

6) **Annual education sector review**

   The LEG develops and implements an annual independent education sector review based on DoE’s M&E framework that will contribute the development of annual strategic implementation plans.

7) **Enhancement of communication among stakeholders**

   The LEG supports the enhancement of communication among stakeholders to ensure the achievement of the national education goals.

8) **Provision of advice for education stakeholders**

   The LEG provides advice and guidance for education stakeholders in implementing their activities at all levels of education within PNG, i.e. schools, districts, provinces, church agencies, etc.

Additional remarks:

- LEG meetings are held when the need arises.
- Decisions are made by a quorum and require an absolute majority vote (fifty percent plus one).
- The LEG will be supported by a secretariat within the DoE.
- The LEG may form sub-committees to carry out its work.
MEMBERSHIP

LEG members include stakeholders who provide education services and support in PNG. Members are expected to participate in the ESIP LEG meeting.

1) Secretary Department of Education
2) Deputy Secretary Policy and Corporate Services Department of Education
3) Deputy Secretary Teaching and Education Standards Department of Education
4) Chairman Teaching Service Commission
5) Director General Office of Library and Archives
6) First Assistant Secretary Policy and Research Department of Education
7) Department of Higher Education Research and Science Technology Representative
8) Department of Treasury Representative
9) Department of Finance Representative
10) Department of National Planning and Monitoring Representative
11) Department for Community Development and Religion Representative
12) Department of Provincial and Local Level Government Affairs Representative
13) Provincial Education Adviser Representative (New Guinea Islands Region)
14) Provincial Education Adviser Representative (Highlands Region)
15) Provincial Education Adviser Representative (Momase Region)
16) Provincial Education Adviser Representative (Southern Region)
17) Churches Education Council Representative
18) Development Partners Representative
19) Coordinating Agency of GPE
20) National NGO or Civil Society Organization Representative
21) International NGO Representative
22) Teachers Union Representative
23) Secondary School Principals Representative
24) PNG Association of Disability Group Representative
25) Parents and Citizens Representative

Observers

1) First Assistant Secretary Corporate Services Department of Education
2) Assistant Secretary Policy and Planning Department of Education
3) Assistant Secretary Research and Evaluation Department of Education
4) Director Papua New Guinea Education Institute
5) Commissioner Policy Teaching Service Commission
6) International Education Agency Representative
7) Parents and Citizens Representative
8) Other Development Partners and NGO Representatives

Minute Secretary

Aid Coordination Officer Department of Education

Technical Assistance

External Education Advisors Department of Education