

# TRANSFORMING EDUCATION WITH GPE



A second grade student learning in class at Arapaima Primary School, Lethem, Region 9, Guyana.  
GPE/Kelley Lynch

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) is the only partnership and fund entirely dedicated to helping children in low- and lower-middle-income countries get a quality education, so they can unlock their potential and contribute to building a better world. GPE convenes partners and provides financing in 92 countries to transform education systems to reach all children, especially the most vulnerable, including girls, children with disabilities and those affected by extreme poverty or conflict.

## WHAT WE OFFER

Building on 20 years of experience, GPE helps countries transform their education system to get millions more children in school and learning. The heart of our work is partnership to deliver system-wide, sustainable change for children so they can contribute meaningfully to their communities.

Since we started:

- ▶ 372 million children are supported with better education in GPE partner countries, and more children are completing primary school and lower-secondary school.
- ▶ Twice as many girls are enrolled in school (82 million more since 2002) and girls are now just as likely to finish school as boys in three quarters of partner countries.
- ▶ GPE has raised more than US\$11 billion for education.

## HOW WE WORK: PARTNERING AND FUNDING FOR EDUCATION

GPE brings together donors, multilateral institutions, civil society, teacher representatives, philanthropic foundations and the private sector to offer expertise and innovation. This is GPE's strength as a **partnership**. As a **fund**, GPE provides flexible grant financing that acts as a catalyst for additional investment.

GPE **convenes governments and their education partners** to identify the most important education challenges, with **gender equality** fundamental to all discussions. The country decides, through policy dialogue with partners, one **priority reform** that has the potential to catalyze impact across the education system.

The country's priority reform then becomes the center of a **partnership compact** that defines each partner's responsibilities and explains how they will monitor

progress in removing key obstacles to better learning. During implementation of the partnership compact, GPE works to align external support for monitoring, learning and adapting.

## FLEXIBLE FUNDING TO TRANSFORM EDUCATION

To complement and leverage domestic resources, GPE offers countries flexible funding options to implement their priority education reform including the:

- › **System capacity grant** to strengthen planning and policy development, improve data and diagnostics, enable coordination and boost government capacity to learn and adapt.
- › **Program development grant** to finance the design of an education initiative central to the government's priority education reform.
- › **System transformation grant** to catalyze far-reaching change across the education system.
- › **Girls' Education Accelerator** that complements both the system transformation grant and the GPE Multiplier to bolster initiatives to get girls learning.

## INNOVATIVE FINANCING

GPE attracts new and additional financing to education through innovative financing tools. The **GPE Multiplier** mobilizes \$1 from GPE for every \$3 raised from a range of cofinancing partners, including multilateral donors and non-governmental organizations. Through the **GPE Match**, every \$1 from the private sector and foundations is matched with \$1 from the Multiplier. The **Arab Coordination Group Smart Education financing initiative (ACG SmartEd)** leverages the GPE Multiplier at a 1:4 funding ratio for holistic education investments for the 37 GPE partner countries that are also member countries of the Islamic Development Bank. GPE's **Debt2Ed** financing tool reduces debt by transforming a partner country's debt repayments into investments for education.

## A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO COMPLEX CHALLENGES

GPE partner countries can also take advantage of:

- › **The GPE Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX)**, which addresses knowledge gaps and supports countries to share promising education innovations and bring them to scale.
- › **Education Out Loud**, which supports civil society activities that strengthen transparency, accountability and participation in decision making.
- › **Strategic partnerships** that connect governments with expertise to address complex or cross-sectoral challenges, including specific on-demand support to strengthen country capacity for monitoring, evaluation and learning from evidence.
- › **Private sector expertise**, facilitated by GPE, to complement national efforts in areas such as data solutions and social marketing.
- › **The partnership's convening power**, to mobilize additional, external resources toward underfunded education priorities at the country level.



Student and teacher at the chalkboard in School #30, Dangara, Tajikistan.  
GPE/Kelley Lynch