

GREATER IMPACT THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

8 reasons to invest in the Global Partnership for Education now more than ever

On June 26th, 2014, leaders from around the world will convene at the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Pledging Conference to decide the future of education for children in the most poverty-stricken and conflict-affected countries on the planet. This brief explores why now, more than ever, donors and development actors must ambitiously support GPE's work over the 2015-2018 period.



REASON #1:

WE CANNOT END POVERTY WITHOUT INVESTING IN EDUCATION.

Education is intrinsically related to other poverty alleviation aspects, such as maternal and child health, gender equality, economic development, national security, and democracy.



REASON #2:

THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION REACHES THOSE IN THE GREATEST NEED — ESPECIALLY THOSE IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS AND HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES.

Nearly three-quarters of the world's 57 million primary-school-age children who are out of school live in GPE developing country partners. GPE provides a higher proportion of its support to conflict-affected and fragile states than other major donors.



REASON #3:

THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION COMPLEMENTS BILATERAL EFFORTS IN GLOBAL EDUCATION.

GPE's strategic goals help the US meet its own bilateral objectives in global education. Support to the Global Partnership for Education extends the reach of other foreign assistance both programmatically and geographically.



REASON #4:

THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION MOBILIZES DEVELOPING COUNTRY RESOURCES TOWARDS THEIR OWN EDUCATION SYSTEMS.

Public expenditure on education among GPE developing country partners is growing at a faster rate than that of developing countries that are not members of the Global Partnership.



REASON #5:

THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION GETS RESULTS.

GPE developing country partners are demonstrating greater gains in areas such as enrollment, completion, and gender parity than developing countries that are not members of the Global Partnership.



REASON #6:
THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION IS TAKING INNOVATIVE STEPS TO FURTHER ENHANCE PERFORMANCE.

The Global Partnership for Education has been repeatedly cited as a model to replicate, has scored high on multilateral assessments, and is advancing innovations to drive even greater performance.



REASON #7:
GLOBAL SUPPORT TO BASIC EDUCATION IS DRASTICALLY DECLINING.

Total aid disbursements for basic education across all donors have dropped for three years in a row, resulting in a 16 percent reduction — and rolling basic education aid levels back to where they were in 2008. Basic education aid actually available to GPE developing country partners was cut by 23 percent from 2009 to 2012.



REASON #8:
DEMAND FOR GPE SUPPORT IS ON THE RISE.

With the proven effectiveness of GPE's approach, the increase in the number of its eligible development country partners, and the current decline in other sources of education aid, demand for GPE support is rising and outstripping what donors have previously provided. The ambition of donors must equally match that of developing country governments.

The Global Partnership for Education has set a 2015-2018 replenishment target of **US\$3.5 billion** for the GPE Fund. RESULTS calls on the governments of its Education for All campaign affiliate countries to play their fullest part in ensuring that this target is met and that the education progress it promises is achieved.



United States

We call on the **US Government** to make a **two-year pledge of US\$250 million** to the GPE Fund and demonstrate its leadership in global education not just bilaterally but multilaterally. Congress and the education community have made routine calls for an annual US contribution of US\$125 million to the Global Partnership for Education, and the current administration has it within its power to make a total two-year, US\$250 million pledge at GPE's June pledging conference. A stronger pledge would put the level of US support to the Global Partnership for Education closer to that of other leaders in the sector, such as the UK and Australia. It would also bear the valuable potential to catalyze further funding and leverage increased support from other donors. With its announcement of its recent designation as a UN Global Education First Initiative (GEFI) Champion Country, expectations are high for the US to provide dramatically increased annual support to the Global Partnership for Education. With its previous US\$20 million pledge to the GPE Fund equating to less than three percent of its bilateral support to basic education, the US must ambitiously increase its pledge to the Global Partnership for Education if there is to be any substance behind its title as a GEFI Champion Country and a leader in the sector. A two-year pledge of US\$250 million to the GPE Fund is essential to genuinely demonstrating this leadership.