

KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION EXCHANGE



Diana Batkhishig reads a text book during a language lesson at School 212 in Murun, Mongolia.
GPE/Antitheziz Atelier

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX) is the largest fund dedicated to bridging education knowledge gaps, supporting evidence generation and connecting the expertise, innovation and knowledge of GPE partner countries to support them in building stronger education systems.

HOW IT WORKS

KIX helps lower-income countries identify and close knowledge gaps, strengthen their ability to use knowledge and bring innovations to scale so that more children get a quality education. Through **sharing and funding proven solutions and innovations**, KIX ensures evidence-informed responses get in the hands of national policy makers and directly feed policy dialogue and planning processes. KIX works to build capacity of education actors to produce, integrate and scale knowledge and innovation in partner countries. A joint endeavor between GPE and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC), KIX is both a funding and research support mechanism with a budget of US\$165.5 million over eight years.

KIX REGIONAL HUBS

Responding to demand from GPE partner countries, **4 regional hubs** provide space for countries to share knowledge, innovation and good practices. There are two hubs in Sub-Saharan Africa, one in Latin America and the Caribbean and one that covers other regions in the world (Eastern Europe, Middle East and North Africa, Central Asia and Asia Pacific).

Hubs offer **tailored support, for both policy research and country capacity to develop and use evidence when making policy decisions**, through activities including roundtables for inter-country learning, learning cycles that help countries make use of existing evidence and toolkits, context-specific analyses and

communities of practice, through which countries can learn from one another as well as regional experts.

Each hub convenes KIX national delegations of the countries they support. Over 250 individuals represent over 60 countries through **national KIX delegations comprised of government and other local education group members**, including development partners and civil society organizations. Coordinated by regional hubs and operational from July 2023, KIX also comprises a **country support mechanism**, providing tailored support to individual countries. It finances targeted evidence synthesis to inform policy needs, including those linked with GPE grant processes, and supports implementation research to accompany national education reform agendas.

APPLIED RESEARCH

KIX also funds applied research on priority topics identified through the hubs to generate evidence and scale proven and promising approaches, ensuring evidence-informed responses are positioned for use by national policy makers and directly feed education policy dialogue and planning processes.

KIX currently funds 41 applied research projects, mostly implemented by organizations based in partner countries. Non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, universities, academic institutions, research institutions, think tanks, non-profits, private sector organizations and private foundations in partner countries are eligible to apply for grants. New calls for proposals for research projects are being issued between May 2023 and March 2024 for the 2024–2027 period,¹ and will be organized on select themes.

There are 3 different types of grants available:

› **Single country grants**

Targeting impact in a single country, these grants are tailored to specific national needs in direct association with national policymaking institutions.

Funding ranges from **CAD\$300,000 to \$500,000** for up to two years.

› **Multi-country grants**

Targeting impact in three or more countries and tied to specific priorities in those countries.

Funding ranges from **CAD\$800,000 to \$1.5 million** for up to three years.

› **Regional/global grants**

Targeting impact more generally at a regional or global level, with grounded work in at least three countries; generating public goods such as toolkits or platforms.

Funding is up to **CAD\$2.5 million** for up to three years.



Young girls standing outside of the classroom at the Banteay Dek Primary School in Cambodia.
GPE/Livia Barton

¹ The proposals are in CAD\$ as IDRC is based in Canada.



Grade 5 students watch the school's TV at Saint Ignatius Primary School, Lethem, Region 9, Guyana.
GPE/Kelley Lynch

A SNAPSHOT OF RESULTS SO FAR

KIX has recorded 116 instances of research uptake through which evidence and knowledge mobilization contributed to improvements, including:

- The Ministry of National Education and Civic Promotion of **Chad** considered evidence regarding the effectiveness, appropriateness and value for money of the *Can't Wait to Learn* program—a custom-made gaming technology designed to tackle learning challenges faced by refugees and displaced children—and subsequently formally endorsed it.
- KIX-supported research is investigating how to increase equitable access to quality training for teachers through new approaches to digital technologies for teacher professional development. In **Honduras**, the project is contributing to the design of a new teacher development policy through the National Education Council. The Presidential Educational Institution of **Uzbekistan** has adopted the TPD@Scale model to provide ongoing in-service education and teacher training to improve instructional quality and student learning outcomes.
- Research to adapt and scale a proven summer pre-primary education model has supported an increase in parents' knowledge and engagement in inclusive early childhood education. In **Cambodia**, the team observed that teachers were more confident and better able to use child-focused and gender-responsive pedagogic techniques in the classroom. Education officials in **Tanzania** have committed to reviewing policies and guidelines associated with the summer pre-primary education model, paving the way for enhanced school readiness programming in other parts of the country.

For more information on KIX, visit gpekix.org and contact kix@idrc.ca.