



"Since coronavirus struck, the number of children out of school around the world has soared past 1.3 billion. It is a toll of wasted potential and missed opportunity that is a tragedy not just for those children, but for each and every one of us.

BORIS JOHNSON Prime Minister of the United Education unlocks doors to opportunity and prosperity. It offers girls a ticket out of poverty and exploitation to chart their own futures.

That's why I am delighted that the UK will co-host the replenishment of the Global Partnership for Education in 2021. I urge the global community to come together, dig deep and ensure we fund their vital work to give every child the chance at an education."



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"An educated population is a country's most valuable resource. GPE has been a key partner in helping us invest in innovative solutions to get all our children, especially girls, learning.

We must use the opportunity of GPE's financing conference to make ambitious pledges to invest in quality education so our children and young people have the skills and knowledge they need to seize the opportunities of the 21st century."

We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform education and unlock the future we want. GPE will need at least US \$5 billion for 2021–2025 to support lower-income countries to do exactly that.

In the past two decades, the world has made major progress in delivering quality education to all girls and boys. Millions more children are attending school and the gender gap is narrowing, especially at the primary level. But confronted with young and growing populations, and high rates of poverty and inequality that have worsened with COVID-19, governments in lower-income countries need concerted support to accelerate progress.

For nearly 20 years, GPE has been financing and supporting lasting change so that countries can capitalize on the opportunities of the 21st century. As the world's only partnership and fund dedicated exclusively to delivering quality education, we help ensure that marginalized children will no longer be left behind.

GPE is launching a bold new strategic plan for 2021–2025 that will build on this success. With funding of at least \$5 billion, transform education systems in up to 90 countries and territories, which are home to more than 1 billion girls and boys. We will leverage seismic shifts toward inclusion, quality and efficiency, including by putting gender equality at the heart of what we do and how we operate.

The COVID-19 pandemic has

brought new challenges.

Together, we can choose to prevent the erosion of hardwon gains and transform education for the future.

National education budgets in the world's lower-income countries were already challenged, with the majority tied up in recurring costs such as salaries and school maintenance. GPE's targeted support will enable governments to enact the systemic changes they want to see.

The time to create the future we want is now. Raise your hand.

Fund education. Fund GPE.

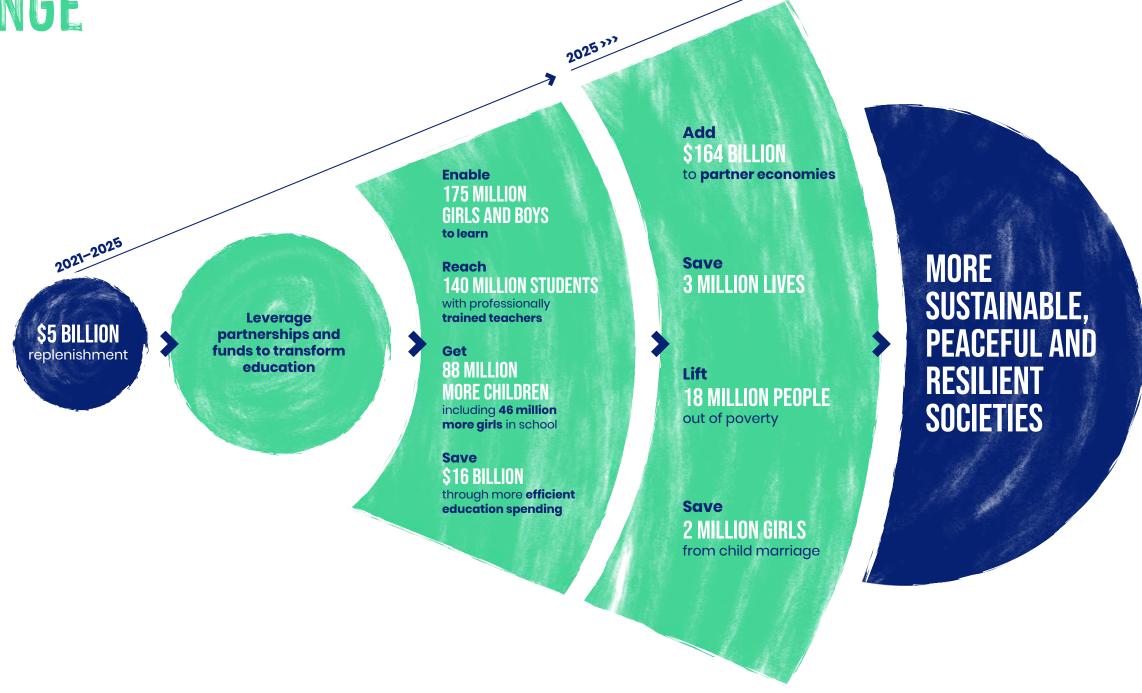
<sup>1</sup>The term 'lower-income' is used to include both low-income and lower-middle-income status countries.

# \$5+ BILLION FOR CATALYTIC CHANGE

With funding of at least \$5 billion, leveraging resources and targeting them where they will have the most transformative impact, GPE can catalyze real change. A fully funded GPE will deliver a disproportionate impact that goes far beyond our direct investments.

GPE leverages the power of our partnership and uses funds as catalytic capital to mobilize even more education financing through proven innovative mechanisms like the GPE Multiplier while also ensuring a focus on improving the volume, equity and efficiency of domestic financing. Funded to at least \$5 billion, GPE would boost discretionary finance available to education ministries in low-income partner countries by nearly a third, enabling them to drive transformation to deliver learning for the furthest behind and build more resilient systems for the future.

The ripple effects of this investment will get more children learning, boost economies, contribute to gender equality and, in the long run, help create more sustainable, peaceful and resilient societies.



For methodology, see: https://www.globalpartnership.org/content/methodological-notes-case-investment-2020.

# GPE'S EDGE



We work to transform education systems so that every girl and boy can get 12 years of quality education plus one year of preschool.



#### AT THE RIGHT TIME

We help keep education systems running through conflict, disasters and health emergencies.



# IN THE RIGHT PLACES

We channel most of our support to the lowest-income and crisis-affected countries.



## AND AT SCALE

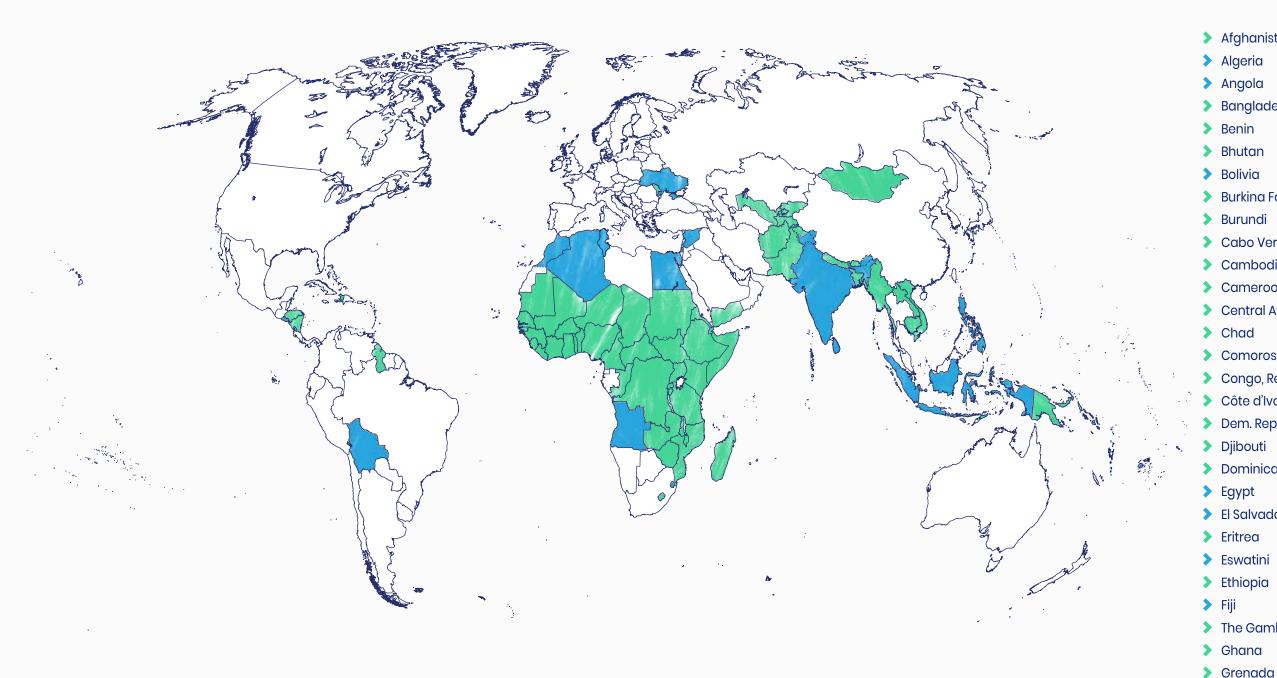
We use our funds as catalytic capital to leverage billions of additional dollars in domestic and international financing for education.



Kenya has prioritized quality education to achieve its ambitious goal of becoming a newly-industrialized nation by 2030. GPE has been supporting Kenya in strengthening its education system for 15 years, investing over \$200 million to help the country remove the biggest barriers to learning for children with the greatest needs—especially girls.

Powered by innovation and a drive for equality, Kenya has achieved universal primary education and gender parity in enrollment in a short time and made impressive strides to improve teaching and learning. GPE also helped achieve a 70 percent saving on textbook procurement and distribution costs, which ensured that Kenya met, within two years, its long-term policy goal of one textbook for every child.

#### 90 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES ELIGIBLE FOR GPE SUPPORT IN 2021-2025 ARE HOME TO MORE THAN 80% OF THE WORLD'S OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN



- <sup>11</sup> There may be minor adjustments to the list of eligible countries/territories depending on future Board decisions on eligibility and annual movements in economic classification
- w Modified operating model requirements and additional safeguards for allocations to Syria may be decided by the Board

  Funding for education in the West Bank and Gaza may be provided through a dedicated sub-account of the GPE Fund

#### **ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES** AND TERRITORIES 2021-2025

Saint Lucia

Samoa São Tomé and Principe

Senegal Sierra Leone Solomon Islands

Somalia South Sudan Sri Lanka Sudan Syria<sup>iv</sup> Tajikistan Tanzania Timor-Leste

Togo Tonga Tunisia Tuvalu Uganda Ukraine Uzbekistan Vanuatu Vietnam

West Bank and Gaza<sup>v</sup>

Yemen

Zambia Zimbabwe

Papua New Guinea

Philippines

Rwanda

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

> Partners<sup>iii</sup> > Eligible

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Tartriors P Eligible	
• Afghanistan	Guyana
Algeria	Haiti
Angola	Honduras
Bangladesh	India
Benin	Indonesia
Bhutan	Kenya
Bolivia	Kiribati
Burkina Faso	Kyrgyz Republic
Burundi	> Lao PDR
Cabo Verde	Lesotho
Cambodia	Liberia
Cameroon	Madagascar
Central African Rep.	Malawi
Chad	Maldives
Comoros	Mali
Congo, Republic of	Marshall Islands
Côte d'Ivoire	Mauritania
Dem. Rep. of Congo	Micronesia, FS
Djibouti	Moldova
Dominica	Mongolia
Egypt	Morocco
El Salvador	Mozambique
• Eritrea	Myanmar
Eswatini	Nepal
• Ethiopia	Nicaragua
Fiji	Niger
The Gambia	Nigeria
Ghana	Pakistan

# GIRLS' EDUCATION: THE PATH TO PROGRESS

Investments in school-age girls have the highest returns in tackling future gender inequalities. GPE is uniquely positioned to be a government's strongest ally in striving for education that leaves no girl behind. Since 2002, GPE has helped partner countries enroll an additional 82 million girls in school. Our tailored approach helps countries apply solutions that will drive change at scale:

- Democratic Republic of the Congo: GPE helped implement a dedicated girls' education strategy to tackle harmful sociocultural norms and practices against girls.
- Pakistan: In Sindh province, GPE helped ensure that schools have toilet and sanitation facilities that meet girls' needs and help keep them safe.

Burundi, Madagascar, Mozambique and Senegal: GPE's targeted COVID-19 support is helping prevent gender-based violence against girls during the crisis.

Universal girls' education would practically end child marriage, more than halve infant mortality and drastically reduce early childbearing, overcoming some of the main drivers of gender inequality. Greater gender equality in education, and beyond, can be the foundation for more peaceful, prosperous and sustainable societies.

A fully funded GPE would help ensure an additional 46 million girls enroll in school on the path to a full 12 years of quality education in the next five years.



At 10 years old, Barsha had never set foot in a classroom. She spent her days at home, helping her mother take care of two younger siblings and doing chores.

One day, a local facilitator for a program aimed at getting more Nepali girls into school came to her house and convinced her parents to let Barsha join 24 other girls aged 10-14 at a nine-month catch-up class.

Barsha attended every day and took her studies seriously. At the end of the program, she was able to transfer to grade 5 in a formal public school.

Barsha's family was identified through the GPE-supported Equity Index, which captures data on inequalities in education that are used to target interventions and improve equity across the education system. Since its launch in 2016, the out-of-school rate in Nepal has decreased by 60 percent.

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I was so happy
[knowing that] I will
go to school! I had
seen my friends'
books, and I wanted
some too. I liked the
pictures.

Credit: GPE Kelley Lynch



#### WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN GPE PARTNER COUNTRIES?

Since 2002, GPE has been mobilizing funds and partnerships to support governments in lower-income countries to achieve lasting results.



#### **160 MILLION**

### more children are in school in GPE partner countries.

If these children all lived in one country, it would be the ninth largest in the world.



#### \$6 BILLION

#### saved through efficiencies in education spending.

GPE helps governments save money, enabling them to invest as much as possible in education for the most marginalized children and accelerate their progress in delivering quality education for all.



#### **2X**

### the number of girls are on the path to equality.

**82 million more girls** are in school in GPE partner countries. Primary enrollment for girls has increased by 65 percent and almost three-quarters of partner countries have achieved gender parity in school completion rates.



#### **OVER \$500 MILLION**

## for COVID-19 global education response.

GPE is the **largest provider of education grants** in the global COVID-19 response, supporting partner countries' efforts to ensure continued learning, schools reopen safely and recovery leads to better learning rather than a return to business as usual.

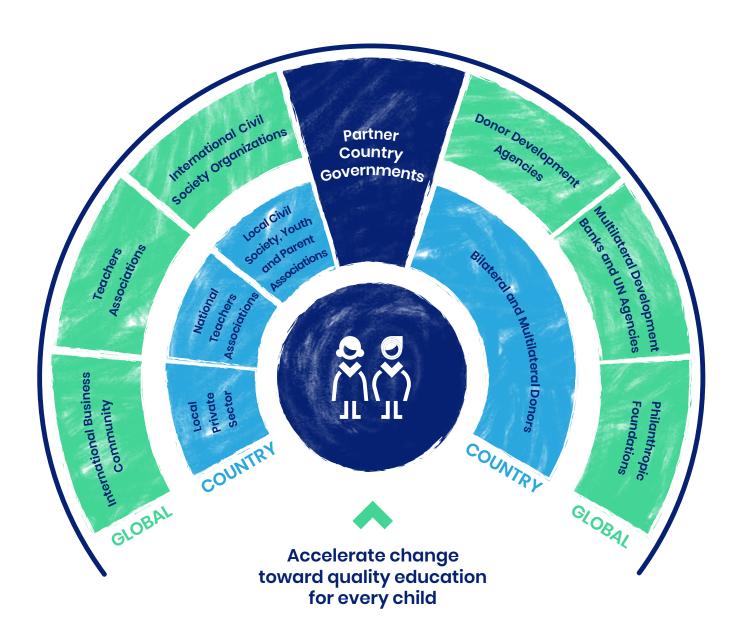
Note: Data are from 61 countries where GPE has provided implementation grants. The period covered is 2002-2018, the latest year with available data. Enrollment figures cover 12 years of basic education plus pre-primary. Efficiencies are calculated based on an annual rate of 1 percent.

#### THE GPE PARTNERSHIP

Globally, the GPE Board sets strategy, debates policy and allocates funds.

At the country level, GPE supports government-led education sector coordination and brings partners together in local education groups to drive transformation and ensure the voices of the most marginalized are represented in decision-making.

GPE coordinates, convenes and collaborates with actors across the whole global education sector to ensure optimal outcomes for the furthest behind children. The power of the partnership is in all stakeholders coming together behind partner country leadership.



# GPE 2025

GPE's most ambitious strategy to date will accelerate efforts to reach Sustainable Development Goal 4 through transformed education systems. We will help optimize education systems so that all children can learn, including those marginalized by poverty, ethnicity, disability and displacement, and **put gender equality at the heart of what we do and how we operate**.

To ensure all girls and boys can learn equally, learn early and learn well, GPE will focus on the following:

- Narrowing in on the most stubborn barriers to get every child learning
- Getting money to where it matters most
- > Using smart funding requirements and incentives to drive change
- > Helping education ministries influence budget allocations
- > Using innovative finance to support national priorities

**EFFECTING CHANGE THROUGH COUNTRY GRANTS:** A fully funded GPE will help partner countries build **78,000 classrooms**, buy **512 million textbooks** and train **2.2 million teachers**, but this is only the beginning. We leverage our strength as a partnership to ensure that GPE funds create transformational change, delivering added value for every dollar we invest.

**GPE'S RIPPLE EFFECT:** An investment in GPE ripples out across sectors, generating impact for generations. Strong education systems accelerate progress on all 17 Sustainable Development Goals by boosting economies; driving gender equality and helping build more inclusive societies; promoting health, nutrition and well-being; and building resilience against shocks from climate change and conflict.

# AICHETOU MAURITANIA

Aichetou, 14, moved to the outskirts of Mauritania's capital, Nouakchott, with her family as she was just starting school.

Both of her older sisters interrupted their education after primary school because there were no lower-secondary schools close to their home.

To address low transition rates for girls, the Mauritanian government, with GPE's support, has been building more "proximity schools" in areas where girls drop out.

Aichetou now attends one of these new schools as a grade 8 student.

Making sure distance isn't a barrier between a girl and her education is why GPE works with countries to make their education systems inclusive and equitable.

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I always sit in the front row and I always participate. My teachers like me and I am one of the top students in my class.

Credit: GPE/Kelley Lynch



# INNOVATING AT SCALE

GPE has pioneered innovations and taken them to scale to advance quality learning, equity and inclusion in education:

- GPE Multiplier: Catalyzed more than \$882 million through an innovative financing mechanism where every \$1 invested leveraged \$3.90 from other funders.
- Global Partnership for Education Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX): Dedicated to identifying and

- scaling the most promising evidence-based solutions to education challenges.
- Education Out Loud: The world's biggest education advocacy fund, which supports civil society to play an active role in ensuring education meets the needs of marginalized communities.
- GPE emergency support mechanisms empower partner countries to respond rapidly to crises while keeping sight of their long-term goals.

# COVID-19

COVID-19 has created the largest education emergency in modern history. **GPE mobilized our most rapid and largest-ever emergency response** to help prevent a deepening loss of learning and potential.

By quickly focusing on the right things in the right places, GPE's COVID-19 fund is helping governments sustain learning for up to 355 million children in lower-income countries, with a sharp focus on those hardest hit by school closures: girls, children with disabilities and children from the poorest families.

By acting at the right time and at scale, GPE provided dedicated funding of over half a billion U.S. dollars to partner countries, making us the single-largest source of grants to education as part of the worldwide response.

Education ministries and their partners are using GPE funds to keep learning going, support the safe reopening of schools and strengthen the resilience of their education systems to respond to future emergencies.



Credit: Malala Fund

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The COVID-19 crisis is exposing how tenuous education is for millions of girls. With 130 million girls out of school before the pandemic, we know that the number could rise by tens of millions in the next year. I am asking leaders to renew their commitment to education and invest in the Global Partnership for Education. If we don't prioritize education now, we will risk losing hard-won progress and sacrificing a brighter future for everyone.

MALALA YOUSAFZAI NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE AND CO-FOUNDER, MALALA FUND

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