GPE Southern Partners Update

A publication dedicated to our partners

September - October 2018

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GPE SURVEY – PLEASE SHARE OUR FEEDBACK

GPE Secretariat is conducting a 3-minute survey to have your feedback on the Southern Partners Update. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey, which can be found here. Your views and recommendations are important to us!

GLOBAL POLICY DIALOGUE AND EDUCATION ADVOCACY

UN General Assembly

Canadian PM Justin Trudeau, French President Emmanuel Macron and United Kingdom Prime Minister Theresa May hosted the 12 years to break barriers to girls education event at UNGA. GPE Board Chair Julia Gillard also spoke at the event, which highlighted the urgency for action on girls’ education in the 12 years that remain to fulfill the SDG4 promise for girls.

GPE CEO Alice Albright spoke on GPE’s work on education sector planning and financing of refugee education at the Action for Refugee Education event, along with others including UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, Save the Children CEO Helle Thorning-Schmidt and UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore.

GPE also hosted the Education Data Solutions Roundtable Meeting, a public-private effort that aims to leverage local, private, and development partners’ expertise to improve the availability and use of education data. Read GPE Chief Executive Office, Alice Albright’s blog about the Data Roundtable!

Also at UNGA, The Netherlands pledged a contribution of 100 million euros, adding further success to GPE’s Replenishment campaign.

AU Innovations Expo

The African Union Commission, Senegal and partners organized an expo to showcase technical and social innovations in education and training in Africa. The ‘Innovating Education in Africa Expo’ provided a springboard for innovators to meet potential partners and gain insights that will help catalyze education transformations across the continent.

GPE also shared information on the Knowledge and Innovation Exchange as part of the expo. Innovators from across Africa pitched their innovations to a jury, who selected 10 young innovators as the winners.

The communiqué (EN/FR) and report from the Expo will feed into the Jan/Feb AU Summit in 2019.

GPE AND SDG4- EDUCATION 2030 IMPLEMENTATION

Global Level

GPE participated in the Fifth SDG-Education 2030 Steering Committee meeting on September 12-13, 2018, in Paris. Members of the Steering Committee provided guidance for the preparations of the Global Education Meeting and the High-Level Political Forum 2019 (HLPF) – the main platform for SDG review, which will, for the first time, discuss global progress on SDG4.

The Steering Committee made recommendations for national-level SDG reviews. They also endorsed the agenda of the 2018 Global Education Monitoring Report (GEM) and the process for developing the Outcome statement. The Committee developed an SDG-Education2030 Steering Committee advocacy strategy and reviewed membership and procedures. To learn more about the outcomes of the meeting, please see the synthesis of decisions and recommendations.

Africa:

The West and Central Africa Regional Coordination Group on SDG4 (WCA-RCG4) Steering Committee met on September 26, 2018. Discussions included renewal of the Steering Team; the links between global and regional SDG4 coordination; and the regional launch of the 2019 Global Education Monitoring report. With many WCA-RCG4 members looking to work more
with Local Education Groups (LEGs), the group held a
discussion the week of October 15th on this subject,
including an overview presentation on LEGs by GPE
Secretariat. The meeting shared experience and good
practices working with the LEGs, and looked at what
the RCG4-WCA can offer LEGs.

The teaching and learning task team (TALENT), has
launched an advocacy paper on the alarming level of
learning in Africa. The document is available in
English, French and Portuguese.

Asia

The Asia Pacific Thematic Working Group on
Education 2030 (TWG) met on Oct 5, 2018 and
discussed the 4th Asia-Pacific Meeting on Education
2030 (4th APMED 2030), mid-term review of SDG4,
regional launch of 2019 GEM report and the Asia-

KNOWLEDGE AND GOOD PRACTICE
EXCHANGE | ADVOCACY AND SOCIAL
ACCOUNTABILITY

Advocacy and Social Accountability Updates

• The Strategy and Impact Committee (SIC) has
adopted the design blueprint for the ASA
mechanism. The blueprint is a consensus
document from the SIC that reflects 18 months
of design and consultation. It builds on the work
of the Civil Society Education Fund and provides
two additional windows for GPE to diversify and
strengthen its support to civil society.

• Following deliberation by the SIC, extensive due
diligence by an external firm working with the
GPE Secretariat, and accreditation by the Finance
and Risk Committee (FRC), Oxfam IBIS has been
ominated and selected to be the grant agent for
ASA.

• A series of working meetings were held with the
grant agent in October to agree upon the
foundations of the GA proposal. This will be
followed by a proposal drafting phase in
November 2018.

• The final ASA proposal is expected to be
reviewed by the SIC in early 2019, and will be
operationalized after final approval by the Board.

GPE Webinar Series

The GPE Secretariat hosted a webinar on the recently
published ‘GPE Results Report 2018’ on October 17,
2018. The Results Report is based on a partnership-
wide results framework embedded in GPE 2020
strategic plan. The webinar explored the findings and
conclusions of the report and GPE’s performance on
its indicators, which span critical challenges in the
education sectors in developing country partners that
receive GPE grants. You can access the recording in
English and French, as well as other resources in
English and French.

The next webinar will be on ‘Education in Africa: Key
Challenges & Solutions for Developing Human
Capital’ on November 29, 2018. Based on the World
Bank publication ‘Facing Forward: Schooling for
Learning in Africa’, the webinar will focus on policy
and implementation actions needed for countries in
sub-Saharan Africa to improve learning and expand
access and completion of basic education for all.
Click here to enroll in the webinar. The webinar will be presented in English and French.

GPE COUNTRY WORK UPDATES

Country Highlights

Guyana
In September, the Secretariat participated in the closing ceremony of the Guyana Early Childhood Education Project, which focused on improving early literacy and numeracy in the hinterland and remote riverine areas from preschool to grade one. In 2011-2012, 53% of early childhood education teachers in hinterland areas were untrained—regions with the highest poverty rates in the country. In 2013, a diagnostic assessment for children entering grade one in hinterland areas found that alarming levels of students had not mastered pre-requisite skills for reading and little to no ability to identify basic numbers. Using a US$1.7 million implementation grant, Guyana prioritized early childhood education by providing capacity building for teachers, improving the supply of teaching and learning materials and providing training to primary caregivers. As a result, more than 8,000 school children living in hinterland and riverine areas have boosted their literacy skills by 139% and their numeracy skills by 133%.

Chad
In September, the Secretariat participated in Chad’s fifth joint sector review with a range of actors across the education sector, including national and local service providers, donor partners, and civil society. The joint sector review provided space for dialogue across several key topics in the education sector, such as girls’ schooling, child labor, gaps between urban and rural areas, teachers’ recruitment, deployment and remuneration and community teachers’ status and subsidies. The joint sector review also provided an opportunity to discuss a pathway forward to distinguish actions taken by partners to address sector challenges covered in the Transition Education Sector Plan. To encourage these actions and further the dialogue, the Secretariat recommended the preparation of an annual report on the implementation of the sector plan that would cover each planned action and provide a foundation to analyze achievements and challenges in the education sector.

Information on approved Education Sector Plan Implementation and Development Grants can be found in the News Section of the website.

Important links:
Documents/Guidelines and application forms for countries
QAR Calendar and timeline for Regular ESPIG
QAR Calendar and timeline for GPE Multiplier

GOVERNANCE

There were several important outcomes from the GPE governance committee meetings in October:

- The Grants and Performance Committee recommended three implementation grants (Afghanistan, Myanmar, and South Sudan) for board approval; endorsed GPE principles for operating in complex emergencies; and advanced key work on the Effective Partnership Review.
- The Finance and Risk Committee discussed progress on implementing recommendations from the external risk management review. They focused on development of a new risk taxonomy for Board approval in December, and advanced work on a new risk appetite statement.
- The Governance and Ethics Committee recommended a proposal to strengthen safeguards against sexual harassment, exploitation, and abuse; introducing grant agent minimum standards in this area; and establishing a code of ethical conduct for Governance officials.
- The Strategy and Impact Committee advanced work on the Knowledge and Innovation Exchange and Advocacy and Social Accountability mechanisms as well as on the private sector engagement strategy. Additionally, the developing country partner consultation in Paris provided a key opportunity for feedback across these issues.

Effective Partnerships Review: The GPE Board requested the Secretariat, with the help of an external firm, to examine how key actors of the partnership such as grant agents, coordinating agencies, and local education groups, can understand their roles and operate as efficiently and effectively as possible to deliver GPE 2020. With oversight from the Grants and Performance Committee, the external firm will present its report to the Board of Directors at its December 2018 meeting.
GPE GOVERNANCE CALENDAR
Meetings from November 2018 – February 2019

- **November 20, 2018** – Coordinating Committee Meeting
- **November 28 - 30, 2018** – Developing County Partners Meeting
- **November 28 - 30, 2018** – Grants and Performance Committee Meeting
- **December 6 - 7, 2018** – Board Meeting | Dublin, Ireland
- **February 12, 2019** – Coordinating Committee Meeting

GLOBAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIONS AND ACTIONS

*Support policy and actions on education around the world.*

Nobel Peace Laureate Kailash Satyarthi’s 100 million network launched the **100 million Campaign** - a call to action where all young people are free, safe and educated. GPE is amplifying the campaign on its channels.

The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs has launched a call for submissions of good practices, success stories and lessons learned in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the SDGs. Governments, UN entities, international and regional organizations, Major Groups and other Stakeholders are invited to submit their contributions from now until **February 28, 2019**. Selected Good Practices will be showcased online and may serve as inputs to the preparations for the 2019 HLPFs.

UNGEI Youth Leads launched the #NotMySchool campaign in which activists shared experiences and information about the grassroots work they’re doing to end School-Related Gender Based Violence. *Join the movement by signing the Call to Action.*

Support **UNESCO’s Right to Education campaign**! Through a series of videos, animations, visuals, interviews and stories, the UNESCO campaign - running from 15 October to 18 December 2018 - will unpack the legal significance of the **right to education** and the major challenges that are blocking its path.

“**Stand up, speak out!”** – Girls Not Brides’ youth activism training programme equips young people with the skills & knowledge they need to help end child marriage. **Download it here.**

You can also find resources from the Girls Not Brides Global Meeting on the **Global Meeting Website**.

UPDATES FROM CSO COALITIONS

**GCE World Assembly:** Took place in Katmandu, Nepal, from Nov 16-18, 2018. Preceded by a youth caucus and learning event. More information available **here**.

**Asia and the Pacific:**

*The Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE) organized a Regional Consultation of Education Advocates in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 2-5 September 2018, bringing together Asia Pacific education campaign coalitions, the Global*
Campaign for Education, and regional networks as well as the African coalition ANCEFA. The meeting also saw participation from GPE Secretariat representatives and the CSO2 representatives on the GPE Board. The meeting discussed issues around SDG4, education financing, and the youth and adult education agenda.

ASPBAE organised a civil society meeting prior to the 4th Asia Pacific Meeting on Education 2030 (APMED 4) to prepare its member and partner civil society organizations (CSOs) for effective and well-coordinated CSO participation in APMED 4. The theme of the meeting was - 'From reality to policy: recommendations from civil society on SDG 4.3 and SDG 4.4'.

ASPBAE as well as many national education coalitions and youth representatives participated in APMED4 under the theme Transforming Learning – Meeting the skills demand to achieve SDGs in the Asia Pacific”. ASPBAE members were also part of the Drafting Committee of the Regional Recommendations for Action on SDG targets 4.3 and 4.4. Several of the CSO advocacy calls found resonance in the final agreements of the meeting.

ASPBAE, UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL), the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN (CoNGO) and The United Methodist Church organized a side event – ‘Learning Cities: Transformation Towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies through Education’— for the High-level Political Forum (HLPF 2018) in New York. The event facilitated discussions on the role of learning cities in achieving the right to education of children, youth and adults in the realization of SDG11, SDG 12 and all other SDGs.

Middle East:
Yemeni Coalition for Education (YCEA), Arab Campaign for Education (ACEA) and the Global Campaign for Education released a position paper calling on all international actors and Yemeni parties to actively collaborate towards halting the war and all grave violations against children. The paper appeals to all donors and development partners of Yemen to consider education as a top priority in their humanitarian profiles and in their financial contributions to Yemen’s Humanitarian Response plan.

The Palestinian Education Coalition (PEC) implemented the project “Towards an Inclusive Environment”, in partnership with civil society organizations specializing in education of children with disabilities. The project implemented students’ initiatives on intellectual disability issues, creating enabling school environments and promoting social accountability on the right to education of children with intellectual disabilities.

Africa:
Mozambique national education coalition, Movement for Education for All (MEPT) technicians outlined the challenges posed by the Direct Support to Schools (ADE) Procedure Manual for schools in Mozambique to apply for ADE funding based on their individual priorities. They highlighted the need to revise the Procedure Manual and strengthen institutional coordination.

On July 26-27, 2018, Cameroon Coalition CEFAN (Cameroon Education for All Network) organized the "Consultative Conference of Cameroon CSOs on Education Issues: Linking DSSEF to SDG4 and CESA”. 16-25 " Civil society has been asked to carry out a sustained reflection to make its contribution to the improvement of the content for the next Strategic Document of the Education and Training Sector (DSSEF) of Cameroon.
EFANet supported the institutionalization and capacity building of a National School Management Committee (NaSMaC) in the Gambia.

The national education coalitions of Benin and Niger undertook a learning exchange exercise in Burkina Faso from 16 to 22 September 2018. Then coalitions reviewed the national and local institutional anchoring of Burkina Faso’s national coalition (CN-EPT / BF) and learned about its regional and communal committees and advocacy groups.

Latin America:

The Dominican Republic national education coalition, Socio-Educational Forum (FSE), Oxfam in the Dominican Republic, and the InteRed Foundation presented on Bulletin #19 "Literacy and Education Services for Young People and Adults: Challenges for Social Inclusion" of the FSE’s Observatory of the Education Budget in the Dominican Republic to the government officials of the Ministry of Education of the Dominican Republic (MINERD) and the General Directorate of Special Programs of the Presidency (DIGEPEP), as well as in an event open to the education community in the Dominican Republic.

Check out all the stories from the coalitions here!

NEWS and MULTIMEDIA

Featured News:
- GPE welcomes new funds from Germany
- Education Cannot Wait, the Global Partnership for Education, UNESCO and UNICEF release joint statement on the dire situation of teachers in Yemen
- Global Partnership for Education provides emergency education funding for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and displaced children in the Central African Republic

Featured Multimedia and Infographics:

Video: Guyana invests in early learning for a brighter future

Video: President Macron speaks about education at 2018 UN General Assembly

Video: Meet GPE’s Vice-Chair Min. Serigne Mbaye Thiam

Infographic: 12 years to break down the barriers to girls’ education

Infographic: How to improve health and learning in school-age children

Find more news and multimedia here.

PUBLICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

Featured Knowledge Products:

Joint Sector Reviews: A Practical Guide for Organizing Effective JSRs

GPE: GPE in Action

Featured Blogs:

Education Shapes the Future: Stories from young people in GPE partner countries on the importance of education

Education must be a right, not a privilege!

A young woman’s journey to advocating for education

Read GPE’s Education for All Blog!
Tell us your story!
The GPE Education for All blog is a platform for all partners to present and discuss their activities, challenges and progress. Write to us with your stories and work. You can find our blog guidelines here. For questions and submissions, please contact Chantal Rigaud (crigaud@globalpartnership.org) and Victoria Egbetayo (vegbetayo@globalpartnership.org).

UPCOMING EDUCATION EVENTS

Global Gender Summit, Kigali, Rwanda,
March 8-10, 2019

DCP FOCAL POINTS UPDATE
A warm welcome to the following new GPE DCP Focal Points:

- Malawi, Rwanda (Africa 1)
- Nigeria (Africa 3)
- Vietnam (Asia and the Pacific)
- Saint Lucia (Latin America and the Caribbean)