

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

The Global Partnership for Education

FY21 REQUEST

\$125 million for The
Global Partnership
for Education

Over the past two decades, many low-income countries have made abolished school fees, built infrastructure, improved gender equity, trained teachers, and partnered with donors to reduce the number of out-of-school kids in the world. The results of this commitment are clear; **more children than ever before are in school**. But now the question is: Are they learning?

The answer all too often is – not enough. Progress has stagnated over the past several years. **Over half of those children of primary school age who do make it into a classroom, a staggering global total of 387 million kids, cannot read a single sentence.** At all education levels, children in marginalized groups have greater barriers to accessing quality education. Worldwide 132 million girls are not in school. Children in fragile, conflict-affected countries are twice as likely to be out of school. Forty percent of children with disabilities in low and lower-middle income countries are out of primary school and that number jumps to 55 percent at the lower-secondary level.

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE), the only public-partnership exclusively focused on achieving quality education for all, is working to change this. GPE is a leader in the push for equity in education, and **GPE programs emphasize inclusive education for children with disabilities, increasing support for girls' secondary schooling, and increasing access for early childhood development programs**, particularly in the hardest to reach places and areas in conflict. GPE places its low-income country partners at the forefront of the strategy and aligns donors and other partners behind them. The GPE approach helps build strong, sustainable education systems that will provide education for generations to come.

GPE has worked with partners to enroll 77 million more children in primary school in the poorest countries. At GPE's February 2018 financing conference, donor countries and **low-income countries came together to fund a three-year strategy that will put 25 million additional children in school** for the first time. The plan supports over 80 low-income countries to convene education stakeholders to develop, implement, and fund quality national education plans. Strengthening U.S. support for GPE is critical to reaching the goal of improving quality education for all.

Why Funding Matters

U.S. investments in basic education through both USAID and GPE give countries the boost they need provide their most vulnerable children a quality education, and help them become thriving, productive citizens. Measurable results and innovative financing remain central to USAID's strategies, and GPE has taken significant strides in these areas.

- **As a model of aid effectiveness**, transparency, and accountability, GPE is using its newly developed Results Framework – a comprehensive series of baselines, milestones, and targets for 37 indicators – to monitor and report progress against their strategic goals and objectives.

- **As a leader on innovative finance**, GPE established the “GPE Multiplier,” a new funding opportunity for developing country partners. This new fund provides \$1 of GPE grant funds for every \$3 a country secures in additional external financing for education – meaning the more countries invest in their own education plans, the more resources they can get from GPE to support education.

Girls’ Education in Afghanistan

With support from partners like USAID and GPE, Afghanistan is making significant progress with regards to access and girls education. Brisna, a nine-year-old girl who lives in one of the most volatile regions in Afghanistan is benefiting from a GPE-funded program that has recruited, trained and deployed qualified female teachers to staff community-based, accelerated learning and mosque-based education classes. One of the main obstacles to girls education in Afghanistan is the lack of female teachers. GPE has worked to address this gap, and now Brisna, and other girls in her village, can get an education. Brisna says “I am happy because I can learn now. I have learned how to offer prayer and my feeling of happiness doubled when I first wrote [those down] on paper.”



Golson Shojae works on a math problem with a student in Afghanistan. Photo: USAID.

USAID also supports Community-Based Education programs which improve access to education for women and children who live in remote and underserved communities. The USAID funded program targets young women and children whose earlier education was hindered by conflict, distance to schools, or lack of resources and female teachers. Golson Shojae, a graduate of Kabul University, is a community-based monitor responsible for supporting teachers and ensuring 20 accelerated learning centers in her district run smoothly. She is proud of her work and says, “It is my dream that all girls in the country can one day receive an education.” With continued partnerships between the Ministry of Education of Afghanistan and partners like GPE and USAID, girls like Brisna can be supported in their learning, and Golson’s dream will be closer to becoming reality.

RESULTS’ Request and Funding History

As members of Congress submit annual personal appropriations requests forms, they should protect critical funding for anti-poverty programs in the International Affairs account. They should specifically ask to improve access to education by requesting funding within Development Assistance in the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill for Basic Education, which includes funding for the Global Partnership for Education.

To do so, please submit a formal appropriations request form for Basic Education and GPE to Senators Graham and Leahy or Representatives Lowey and Rogers as Chairs and Ranking Members of the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittees of Appropriations. Contact RESULTS staff Crickett Nicovich for support: cnicovich@results.org.

Fiscal Year	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	RESULTS’ FY21 Request
Global Partnership for Education	\$75 million	\$87.5 million	\$90 million	\$100 million	\$125 million
Basic Education	\$800 million	\$800 million	\$800 million	\$875 million	\$975 million