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## FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015 REQUESTS FOR FOREIGN OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

### House

Rep. Kay Granger, Chair  
 Rep. Nita Lowey, Ranking Member

### Senate

Sen. Patrick Leahy, Chair  
 Sen. Lindsey Graham, Ranking Member

## Global Basic Education

### FY15 Request: Provide \$125 million for the Global Partnership for Education within Global Basic Education

#### Global Basic Education and Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Funding History

Fiscal Year	FY11	FY12	FY13 Continuing Resolution	FY14 Omnibus	FY15 RESULTS' Request
<b>Overall Basic Education</b>	\$925 million	\$800 million	\$767 million*	\$800 million	\$925 million
<b>GPE</b>	\$0	\$20 million	Not specified	Language authorizing a contribution	\$125 million

*\*Congress originally appropriated \$800 million, but the final funding level was reduced due to sequestration in 2013.*

#### The Need for Global Education

Around the world, 57 million primary school aged children are still not in school. And many more children who are in school are failing to acquire even basic reading, writing and numeracy skills. The world has made astounding progress since 1999, when 108 million primary school aged children were out of school. However, progress has stagnated in the last several years.

Unless more effective policies are implemented and there is greater international financial support, more children may be out of school in 2015 than in 2008. Millions more will receive a low-quality education and not be able to read, write, and count. Support for the Global Partnership for Education is necessary to not only get children into school, but to create strong national education systems that ensure children are learning once they reach the classroom. If all students in low-income countries completed school with basic reading skills, 171 million people could be lifted out of poverty.

#### The Global Partnership for Education

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) is the only multilateral partnership exclusively focused on ensuring all children have access to a quality education. GPE's approach mobilizes global support to help governments in low-income countries attain the capacity to build quality education systems and effectively deliver education services. GPE is an innovative and effective model, bringing together civil society, private sector, donor governments, and 59 low-income countries to support the development of ambitious national education strategies.

## What Has GPE Achieved?

Since 2002, GPE has allocated nearly \$3.8 billion to help the world's neediest children get a quality education:

- It has supported an additional 22 million children to attend and remain in better equipped and supported schools.
- In GPE partner countries, the primary school completion rate rose from 61 percent to 75 percent between 2002 and 2011.
- GPE helps 72 percent of girls finish primary school in 2011, an increase from 55 percent in 2005.
- Over 300,000 teachers have been trained and 52,600 classrooms have been built, rehabilitated, and equipped since 2004 with GPE funding.

**GPE is in a unique position to leverage not only donor funds, but also domestic financing for education.** On average, domestic financing for education as a share of Gross Domestic Product in partner developing countries has increased by 10 percent after they join GPE.

By prioritizing children in conflict-affected and fragile states, girls, basic literacy and numeracy skills, teacher effectiveness, and domestic and external funding to education, GPE is tackling the most pressing issues in global education today.

## The Opportunity: GPE's 2014 Replenishment Conference

The Global Partnership for Education's next pledging conference will be hosted by the European Union in Brussels in June 2014. This is a key opportunity for GPE for donors and developing country partners to increase their commitment to basic education. The pledging conference will be necessary to ensure that GPE can fulfill the demand from its developing country partners. In 2013, GPE approved over \$1 billion in grants to 27 countries that account for approximately 30 million of the world's out of school children.

## The United States Must Increase Support for GPE

In November 2011, partners gathered for GPE's first donor pledging conference to replenish funds for 2011-2014. Despite holding a seat on the Board of Directors, the United States had never contributed to the Global Partnership for Education — until this conference. There, the United States made its first-ever pledge of \$20 million to GPE.

### For every additional \$1 million invested in GPE:

- 74 new classrooms will be constructed;
- 8,000 more children will enter primary school;
- 500,000 textbooks will be distributed; or
- 1,000 teachers will receive a year of training.

This was a significant first step for the United States. However, the \$20 million represented only 2.5 percent of the U.S.'s basic education development program in 2012, which totaled \$800 million. Even further, the U.S. lagged far behind other donor countries in its commitment to multilateral support of global education. For example, the UK and Australia pledged \$402 million and \$278 million, respectively. Even countries such as Denmark and the Netherlands, whose GDPs are only 2-6 percent that of the U.S., pledged \$201 million and \$165 million, respectively.

At the same pledging conference, 30 of GPE's developing country partners came forward and pledged to increase their domestic education budgets by \$5 billion over the next three years. There is a strong commitment from these countries, and the need is clear.

**As the Global Partnership for Education's replenishment conference approaches, U.S. leadership is needed now more than ever. A U.S. contribution of \$125 million to the Global Partnership for Education in fiscal year 2015 is critical to ensuring GPE fulfills its goals, giving all children around the world the opportunity to learn.**

### For additional information, please contact:

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