

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

The Global Partnership for Education

RESULTS requests that members show their support for ensuring access to education for all children by requesting \$150 million for the Global Partnership for Education

Over the past two decades, many low-income countries have 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. Unfortunately for many students, access to school alone does not lead to learning. **An estimated [617 million](#) children and adolescents around the world are unable to reach minimum proficiency levels in reading and math, even though two thirds of them are in school.** More must be done.

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE), the only public-partnership exclusively focused on achieving quality education is **committed to ensuring that all girls and boys can learn equally, learn early, and learn well.** Since 2002, GPE has been mobilizing funds and partnerships to support governments in lower-income countries to support over 160 million more children to be in school and to improve their education quality. 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.

With more kids in school, and with the worldwide disruptions in education because of COVID-19, **it is now time to ensure equitable access to quality education.** This July, the governments of the U.K and Kenya will co-host a replenishment conference to support GPE's \$5 billion strategy for 2021-2025 to ensure quality education for 175 million more children in over 90 countries. The U.S. government must support this bold goal by committing no less than \$1 billion over 5 years. **Congress should support the pledge and fully appropriate \$150 million for GPE in FY22 as the first year of the commitment.**

Education and COVID-19

COVID-19 related school closures disrupted learning for nearly all of the world's 1.5 billion school-aged children. But at all education levels, children in marginalized groups have greater barriers to accessing quality education and will face more barriers maintaining learning and returning to school. At least a third of the world's children – [463 million children](#) - could not access broadcast- and internet-based remote learning after their schools closed. Children living in poverty or rural areas were the most likely to miss out on remote learning. [Eleven million girls](#) might not return to school this year due to their

education being disrupted. This would harm not only the girls, their families, and communities – but it would also threaten decades of global progress on gender equality.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, GPE mobilized a rapid emergency response to prevent loss of learning and distributed [\\$500 million](#) to partner countries to sustain learning for up to 355 million children, particularly focused on those most negatively affected by school closures: girls, children with disabilities, and children from the poorest families.

Why Funding Matters

U.S. investments in basic education through GPE give countries the boost they need to provide their most vulnerable children a quality education, and help them become thriving, productive citizens. By pooling resources, GPE is able to leverage both donor and GPE partner country capacities to fund quality national education plans.

- As a partner with a strong track record of results, GPE has been mobilizing funds to support governments in lower-income countries to achieve lasting results since 2002. **GPE's next five year strategy is set to enable 175 million more kids to learn in over 90 low-income countries.** They are committed to getting money where it matters most and narrowing in on the most stubborn barriers to get every child learning
- **GPE places its low-income country partners at the forefront of the strategy and aligns donors and other partners behind them.** The GPE approach builds strong, sustainable education systems that will provide education for generations to come.
- **As a leader on innovative finance,** in 2018 GPE established the “GPE Multiplier,” a funding opportunity for developing country partners to leverage more resources for education. 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. **The multiplier is on track to mobilize a billion dollars by end of 2020.**

Zambia rises to meet education challenges posed by COVID-19

With GPE's support, the government of Zambia is shifting to distance learning to ensure education continues during the coronavirus outbreak, including for the most disadvantaged children – who will ultimately be the most affected by the pandemic. COVID-19 related school closures have disrupted learning for over 4.2 million Zambian students, but the Ministry of General Education quickly began working to develop a response and recovery plan, funded by GPE, which will reach 4.4 million. To ensure equity and equal access to radio-broadcast lessons, the program provides solar radios and memory cards with pre-recorded lessons to vulnerable students – including girls and students from low-income households. The program will also train teachers on best practices for distance learning and support the return to safe school environments when schools reopen. GPE funding is key to ensuring millions of children in Zambia keep learning during the

pandemic. GPE support has also helped improve technology-based and distance learning programs, which will help to mitigate future crises.

Full story on the [GPE website](#).

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 \$150 million for the Global Partnership for Education.

To do so, please submit a formal appropriations request form for Basic Education and GPE to Senators Coons and Graham or Representatives Lee 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	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	RESULTS FY22 Request
Global Partnership for Education	\$87.5 million	\$90 million	\$100 million	\$125 million	\$150 million
Basic Education	\$800 million	\$800 million	\$875 million	\$950 million	\$1.1 billion