USAID Basic Education and GPE

RESULTS requests $1.2 billion for International Basic Education including $200 million for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

Over the past twenty years, many low-income countries made incredible strides in improving education access for young learners. Governments partnered with donors to abolish school fees, build infrastructure, improve gender equity, and train teachers. The results of this commitment were clear—more kids than ever before were in school.

But unfortunately for many students, access to school alone does not equal learning. Reading and math are the launching pad for future learning, growth, and development. But, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, too many children are not able to access the quality education they need and deserve. As a result, 70 percent of 10 year olds in low- and middle-income countries are experiencing “learning poverty.”

There is a critical need to improve foundational literacy and numeracy skills. The world is dealing with numerous crises, and we cannot afford to leave behind an entire generation of learners. With increased U.S. leadership, we can partner with governments to reach even more children and support education leaders to strengthen national school systems, so all children can fulfill their right to education—starting with foundational reading and math skills.

USAID and Basic Education

With U.S. leadership, the world has made progress in foundational learning, gender equity, and inclusive schooling. Indeed, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has committed to making international basic education programming even more inclusive for the most marginalized students, including students with disabilities that require additional support to reach learning goals. In 2021 alone, USAID reached more than 33.4 million learners in 73 countries and assisted more than 113,000 schools. This was only possible due to strong bipartisan Congressional support.

Global Partnership for Education

USAID also increases its leverage and reach in global education through investments in the multilateral Global Partnership for Education. As the only fund of its kind, GPE has spent nearly 20 years helping governments invest in innovative solutions to get all children in school and learning. Its track record speaks for itself: Since 2002, 160 million more children have attended school with GPE support and 67 million more children have access to quality teachers in partner countries. To build on this success, GPE and its partners have a bold 5-
year strategy to support up to 90 lower income countries in transforming their education systems. With full funding, *including increased support from the U.S. government*, GPE and its partners aim to support schooling for 175 million more children.

**Why Funding Matters**

Reaching children who are out of school due to economic hardship, environmental crisis, conflict, or displacement, and those children who need additional support within schools to reach foundational learning goals will require a strong financial commitment from the United States. With new resources, the U.S. can:

- **Ensure access to quality, inclusive basic education**, so that a higher percentage of students from low- and middle-income countries receive the resources needed to achieve proficiency in foundational literacy and numeracy, an important baseline for lifelong learning and economic development.
- **Assist an expanded list of priority countries** to strengthen systems and help education leaders fill learning gaps.
- **Support effective training and curriculum resources for teachers**; we know that there are teaching methods and curriculum resources that have been proven as effective sources of student learning. Increased funding will help get these resources into the hands of more teachers.
- **Leverage investments in the Global Partnership for Education (GPE)** to support system-level improvement of learning outcomes for marginalized children, including girls and youth with disabilities, and investments in early learning and girls secondary.

**RESULTS’ Request and Funding History**

As members of Congress submit annual appropriations requests to the relevant Appropriations Subcommittees, they can show their support by submitting a formal appropriations request form to Senators Coons and Graham or Representatives Diaz-Balart and Lee as Chairs and Ranking Members of the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee for USAID Basic Education and GPE at the below funding levels. Contact RESULTS staff Crickett Nicovich for additional information: cnicovich@results.org.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>FY20</th>
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<td>Of which, GPE</td>
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