

## Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

Multilateral Aid Review (MAR) Update 2013 progress rating:



**MAR 2011: *Good Value for Money for UK Aid (reviewed as Education for All – Fast Track Initiative)***

Progress assessment	
Summary	Has made progress against all reform priorities. Progress includes expanding and improving quality of support to countries; increasing efficiency, transparency and predictability in financial management; and publishing consolidated reporting on results.
Baseline	
<p>The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) is the only multilateral exclusively focused on supporting low income countries to educate children from pre-primary through secondary school, providing financial and policy support to countries to develop and implement their own education sector plans.</p> <p>The MAR highlighted several strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GPE spent 65% of its resources in countries in the top quartile of the index of poor countries.</li> <li>• GPE makes a strong contribution to MDGs 2 and 3. It incentivises donors to align behind country plans.</li> <li>• Positive reforms to governance, financing and results approved in November 2010, and has an open disclosure policy.</li> </ul> <p>The MAR also highlighted several weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MAR did not find evidence that GPE had shown strong leadership on gender equality nor was it able to provide sufficiently flexible support in fragile contexts.</li> <li>• GPE did not have a global-level results framework, and was not consistently doing enough to help resolve problems in developing countries.</li> <li>• GPE's progress on disbursement and grant management was weak. Funding allocations were not transparent or predictable.</li> </ul> <p>DFID's reform priorities for the MAR Update were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide effective support to fragile states, including prioritising implementation funding – assessed under <u>attention to cross-cutting issues (fragile contexts)</u>;</li> <li>• To provide greater leadership on girls' education and disaggregating and reporting results by gender – assessed under attention to <u>cross-cutting issues (gender)</u>;</li> <li>• To have clear, evidenced and compelling results reporting – assessed under <u>contribution to results</u>;</li> <li>• To have improved operational effectiveness: a simplified, more flexible Single Fund; stronger leadership and management capacity; addressing delays in disbursement – assessed under <u>strategic and performance management</u>;</li> <li>• To provide more, and more sustainable, funding for education from a range of stakeholders – assessed under <u>strategic and performance management</u>;</li> <li>• To ensure that GPE can work with a range of institutions appropriate to particular country contexts – assessed under <u>partnership behaviour</u>.</li> </ul>	

Summary of Overall Progress			
<p>GPE has demonstrated progress against each of the MAR reform priorities. It now publishes aggregated results reporting as well as an increasing volume of data on its work. It has adapted its model to make it easier for fragile countries to use its support. GPE is engaging more consistently with countries to ensure gender is addressed in country plans and is partnering with the UN Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI). It has strengthened financial management including the transparency and predictability of country grants, as well as improving leadership and management through the appointment of a new, senior CEO and an organisational restructure. The 2011 replenishment raised \$1.5 billion and aims to reach \$2 billion by the end of 2014, and there are now seven Supervising/Managing Entities, compared to three at end 2011.</p>			
Progress against reform priorities			
MAR reform component	MAR 2011 score	Progress rating	MAR Update score, if any change
<b>Attention to cross-cutting issues (fragile contexts)</b> GPE has taken practical steps to improve its support to fragile states (improved fragility and conflict guidelines, accelerated funding for fragile states, increased supervision allocations) and has increased the pool of fragile states it funds by 50%.	3	Reasonable progress	
<b>Attention to cross-cutting issues (gender)</b> GPE has revised its appraisal process to promote more constructive challenge to country applications on gender equality, made girls' education one of its five main objectives, and agreed a new partnership with the UNGEI to promote girls' education.	3	Reasonable progress	
<b>Contribution to results</b> GPE has addressed a key weakness which was the lack of aggregated results reporting. It reports on output results for GPE funding and education outcomes in developing countries. However, reporting is not yet sufficiently clear and compelling, and GPE does not use results systematically to manage performance.	2	Reasonable progress	
<b>Strategic and performance management</b> GPE set clear and stretching objectives in its 2012 Strategic Plan. It is planning a major evaluation, has recruited a new CEO, and reports on results, but some management and governance issues remain.	2	Some progress	
<b>Financial resources management</b> GPE has a new aid allocation model which is transparent and predictable. Accelerated disbursement and proactive portfolio management have sped up delivery to countries.	2	Significant progress	
<b>Partnership behaviour</b> An expanded Country Support Team is delivering a	3		

tangible improvement in the service GPE offers to countries: better advice and improved ability to support countries in resolving problems.		Reasonable progress	
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