



Global Project Education | Component BACKUP Education



Support GPE partner countries in obtaining funding for education reforms that promote gender equality

Education is both a human right, and the key to sustainable development and peaceful coexistence. In reality, however, it remains a privilege that is denied to marginalised groups. About 260 million children worldwide do not go to school, and the existing educational gap is widened even further by factors such as poverty and gender.

To go some way towards addressing this trend, BACKUP Education supports Global Partnership for Education (GPE) partner countries in obtaining funding and using it for gender-transformative education reforms. Comprehensive feminist development policy begins at school.

Our approach

GPE is a multilateral fund and a platform for communication between donors, developing countries, civil society, foundations and the private sector. GPE is the key instrument for international education cooperation. BACKUP Education supports countries in successfully applying for GPE funding. We shape this process together. BACKUP Education maintains a permanent representation at the GPE Secretariat in Paris.

In a spirit of shared responsibility, we work closely with GPE at country level with representatives of the Local Education Groups (LEGs). These groups include experts and managers from national ministries of education, spokespersons from national and regional civil society organisations, women's rights organisations and youth activists.

Project information

Project name	Global Project Education Component BACKUP Education
Commissioned by	BMZ
Commission volume	EUR 5 million (BACKUP Education component)
Location	GPE partner countries
In cooperation with	GPE, UNGEI, GCI, IIEP
National partners	Ministries of Education, Local Education Groups (LEGs)
Duration	June 2022 – May 2025

GPE funding mechanisms

To successfully apply for funding, various contractual documents are necessary. Based on the existing GPE processes, BACKUP Education supports applicant countries in preparing these documents. This service is available to more than 90 GPE partner countries, based on demand. GPE funding arrangements include a funding mechanism specifically for girls' education – the Girls' Education Accelerator (GEA). A total of 30 countries, predominantly from Africa, are eligible to apply for this. In line with the German Support Her Education (SHE) initiative, the targeted promotion of girls is a central element of BACKUP Education's work.



Gender-transformative educational planning

Making global and regional educational planning inclusive means including society as well as individuals and organisations. Therefore, BACKUP Education supports interventions for gender-transformative educational planning and promotes existing competences. Besides working with GPE, it also does this in cooperation with the UN Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI), the Gender at the Centre Initiative (GCI) and the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (UNESCO-IIEP).

BACKUP Education provides additional funding through a needs-based and partner-led support mechanism. Partner countries can thus bridge funding gaps to access professional and technical expertise in gender-transformative educational planning. This safeguards the quality and implementation of multilaterally funded programmes at country level, making them sustainable.

Expert conferences, regional forums and workshops are used to train specialists and managers from national ministries of education, and representatives of national and regional civil society organisations.

To ensure that the competences developed in the exchange forums are sustainably anchored in the education sector, BACKUP Education promotes their systematic evaluation and analysis. This enables quality assurance for the sector.

Key milestones of BACKUP Education are

- With the United Nations Girls Education Initiative (UNGEI), the project develops a handbook for applying international gender guidelines to national educational contexts.
- Support to selected partner countries (16 countries in November 2023) that improves the grant applications submitted to GPE for gender-transformative education sector planning.
- Financial and technical support for national and international cooperation partners (UNGEI, GCI and IIEP) in training courses on gender-transformative educational planning for specialists and managers from education ministries and NGOs.

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Updated	11/2023		Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany
Contact	RL104@bmz.bund.de www.bmz.de		Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 32 + 36 53113 Bonn, Germany
Postal address of BMZ offices	BMZ Berlin Stresemannstraße 94 10963 Berlin, Germany T +49 (0)30 18 535-0		Email: edu-grant-support@giz.de https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/75066.html
	BMZ Bonn Dahlmannstraße 4 53113 Bonn, Germany T +49 (0)228 99 535-0		